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SuperSoccer

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Blatter gives okay for North Korea to host World Cup

SEPP Blatter, president of football's governing body FIFA, said that he was willing to see North Korea host a couple of matches at the 2002 World Cup finals.

Blatter, who succeeded Joao Havelange in 1998, added a final decision would have to be reached by the time the draw for the finals was made in December 2001.

"When I was in Korea three weeks ago I said we had an open policy on the matter," he said.

"If the two countries can reach a political agreement then South Korea can give North Korea one or two matches," he added.

However, Blatter emphasised that FIFA could not make the first moves towards making it happen.

"We cannot make the first move it is up to the politicians.

"We can come in afterwards but not before," he said.

Marcus back for Pride

EASTERN Pride has signed dynamic wing back Marcus Stergiopoulos, for the remainder of the season, after his return from a short stint with Lincoln City in England.

Stergiopoulos, who for several months provided us with an insight into the trials and tribulations of trialling overseas, returns to the Gippsland region where he started his career with the Falcons (now Eastern Pride) before stints at Carlton and the Kingz in New Zealand.

Stergiopoulos returned to Australia during the week, following the completion of a three-month playing stint with the 3rd Division club, and was quickly snapped up by the Pride on Friday.

"I'm quite excited about joining the club," he told the club's website. It's going to be a challenge, there's no doubt about that. The club has only 2 points so far this season, so I'm extremely keen to help change that situation".

British domestic transfers to stay under new European Union laws

DEALS between clubs in the same country will not be affected when the European Union (EU) decides on a new soccer transfer system, a senior European Commissioner has said.

Viviane Reding, the commissioner responsible for sport in Brussels, told the Daily Telegraph newspaper on Saturday that any new legislation would relate only to international transfers between EU clubs.

Soccer's world ruling body FIFA, its European counterpart UEFA and other officials from within the game are currently in discussions with the Commission and EU member states over how to bring the transfer system into line with European law.

The Commission says the current practice of charging transfer fees for players when they are still under contract restricts their free movement.

But there are fears that smaller clubs, who expressly develop young players in order to sell them on, would go out of business if the present system was ruled illegal.

"We do not touch by any means the national transfer system," Reding told the Telegraph.

"This is not at all under scrutiny."

Referring to the British game where there are now record numbers of Australian players, she said: "This is a question of national law and will have to be sorted out between the British government and the British leagues.

"It is a question of British law being applied to transfers between British clubs.

"So none of the discussion under way is going to touch this."

Reding suggested that any new legislation was unlikely to abolish completely the current transfer system, even for international moves within the EU.

"It is not going to go," she said.

"But it is going to be reformed so there are still going to be transfer fees but they may have a different name.

"They may be called severance fees."

The Commission has said it wants a new system agreed by the end of the year with soccer's ruling bodies FIFA and UEFA, national governments and other representatives from within the game.

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COVER PICTURE
PARRAMATTA POWER striker Joe Miller, heading up *SuperSoccer's* special on FOOTBALL IN PARRAMATTA. See pages 11-17. POWER PICS Nick Vasic

NSW STATE REFEREES COACH
(part-time position)

Applications are invited for the part-time term position of NSW State Referees Coach.

The appointment will be for two years from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002.

The responsibilities of the position including establishing and maintaining a register of referee coaches and overseeing the training and development of referees in New South Wales, in line with National Coaching programs, under direction from the NSW Soccer Referees Commission.
Extensive travel throughout New South Wales is required, as well as weekend work.
The position is also a member of the National Referees Coaching Panel.

The successful applicant will have high-level experience as a referee and have first-class communication and administrative skills.

Applicants should, as a minimum, hold a Class 1 Referees' Certificate and have successfully completed the Level 1 Inspectors course, and be willing to undertake a Level 2 Inspectors course.
Experience in developing and providing education programs would be an advantage.

Applications should be forwarded by 14 December 2000 to:

The Secretary
NSW Referees Commission
PO Box 6146
BAULKHAM HILLS BC NSW 2153

Further information can be obtained from Ron Beaumont on telephone 02 9629 1800.

www.soccer.nsw.com.au

Frustrated Foxe heading for Italy?

WEST Ham boss Harry Redknapp has branded the British work permit system "crooked" following a lengthy delay to Hayden Foxe's move to Upton Park.

Redknapp is struggling to get a work permit for the 23-year-old Australian central defender, who is an international regular when fitness permits.

A foot injury has meant Foxe has not played the recommended 75 percent of games for his country recently - the figure usually required if work permits are to be issued - with Olympic team appearances not counting.

But Foxe is eager to join the Hammers and, despite two appeals by the club against the rejection of his work permit, Redknapp is not giving up the fight.

He said: "It's a scandal and a disgrace that we haven't got it yet but I will take it to court - or anywhere I have got to take it.

"The whole system is crooked and it's all about who you know and who can pull the strings."

The Hammers are determined to get their man and have hired the services of an immigration consultant in a bid to get the outcome they want.

Redknapp continued: "I'm not going to let this one die. He's Australian, he's in the Commonwealth. They fought the war with us. I know that might sound like bollocks to you but we let foreign people in who have no allegiance to the country."

He continued: "I've got so much faith in Foxe - I've offered him a fabulous four-year contract on good money."

Redknapp is unhappy that American Ben Olsen - who scored for Nottingham Forest in the Wednesday night win over Sheffield United - was given permission to join the First Division club on loan on the day Foxe's bid to join the Hammers was turned down.

The Upton Park manager added: "Forest got a player in on loan and Wrexham have got tuppence halfpenny players from abroad.

"And how did Brad Friedel (an American) get a work permit when he wasn't even allowed in the country originally?"

Foxe, who is still in Sydney for a home visit while his future is sorted out, was so frustrated that he has said that he will quit England and try to find a club in Europe if West Ham fail to secure him a British work permit.

Foxe signed a four-year deal with the east London club almost four months ago, but has waited unsuccessfully for a work permit since then.

Foxe said he was still hoping West Ham -- which has given him the club's No.6 shirt for the season -- would secure a breakthrough, but said he could not wait in London indefinitely.

"The club has been doing all it can and I'm keen to stay there, but I can't keep hanging around forever," Foxe said.

"It's been four months now and I'm going to give it only until the end of this month (November).

"I'm out with a foot injury until the end of the month anyway so I may as well give it until then.

"If it doesn't come through by then I have to go to Europe. I have to start playing football.

"I haven't played for six weeks and so I've just been training.

"It's frustrating to say the least because it's what you live for as a footballer, playing on the weekend."

Foxe said he had not spoken with any clubs in Europe.

West Ham manager Harry Redknapp has said previously, however, that three Italian clubs had expressed an interest in him as his work permit wrangle stretched on.

Foxe, who signed with West Ham from Japanese club Sanfrecce Hiroshima, played in Australia's ill-fated Olympic campaign and the subsequent four-nations tournament in Dubai, where he had his last match experience.

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Schoolgirls bound for Tahiti

By Marc Barnett

THE Australian Schoolgirls team departed Sydney Airport on Sunday bound for Tahiti.

The team is scheduled to play two matches against the Tahiti under 20s team, followed by a match against the Tahiti National Team.

The team the moves to New Zealand on the 10th of December for the second stage of the tour.

The Australian will play two tests against the New Zealand Schoolgirls, followed by a game against a New Zealand Development squad.

The Australian Schoolgirls team has five survivors from last year's tour of the UK.

They are Alison Hogg, Kathryn Collins, Amelia Covey, Tracey Oldham, and Meegan Shepherd.

Last year, Kathryn Collins was voted the Australian Schoolgirls Players' Player, and is once again looking forward to performing well on tour.

"The Schoolgirls tour is a fun way to end the year, you get to go away with a great group of girls and just have fun and enjoy yourself," she said.

"Going away on a tour like this gives you plenty of experience, and the feeling of playing for Australia is like no other."

With nine New South Wales players, six from Queensland and one from Western Australia, the team should have no trouble in gelling together and finding their combinations.

All six matches should be difficult, physical encounters and will test out the girls to see just how tough they really are.

The team seemed to come together nicely in the three days of training they had at Sutherland before departing for Tahiti.

The team will return to Sydney on the 14th of December.

The Australian Schoolgirls team is as follows: 1. Sasha Vijars QLD 2. Alison Hogg NSW 3. Linda Karner QLD 4. Kathryn Ward NSW 5. Nicole Kimber NSW 6. Kathryn Collins NSW 7. Aivi Luik QLD 8. Haylee Kajewski QLD 9. Amelia Covey QLD 10. Rae Pryde QLD 11. Angela Murphy NSW 12. Catherine Cannuli NSW 13. Tracey Oldham NSW 14. Meegan Shepherd NSW 15. Leah Blaney NSW 16. Elena Fantasia WA Coach: Joe Larecki SA Assistant Coach: Bill McLean QLD Tour Leader: Dave Sheridan QLD

Kewell makes miserable return

HARRY Kewell finally got to team up with fellow Socceroo Mark Viduka as he played his first Premier League match of the season for Leeds on the weekend but his return was a miserable one.

Leeds ventured to Leicester City for a match marking Kewell's return from achilles tendon surgery, and were mauled by Peter Taylor's over-achieving side, 3-1.

Viduka, at the very least, was able to celebrate his 12th goal in all competitions since joining Leeds from Glasgow Celtic in the off-season.

His late strike gave him 11 Premier League goals for the season, equal first with Manchester United's Teddy Sheringham.

But while an all-Aussie strike force of Viduka and Kewell is one that most Premier League clubs would envy, Leeds were woeful in defence despite the first appearance of the world's most expensive defender Rio Ferdinand.

The game appeared up for Leeds - who invariably struggle to win at Filbert Street - as early as the 29th minute, when Gerry Taggart scored for the Foxes to follow earlier goals from Robbie Savage and Ade Akinbiyi.

Kewell, who came on after 60 minutes, had a chance to make it 3-2 following Viduka's 75th minute strike, which came after Leeds had been reduced to 10 men through the sending off of Lucas Radabe.

But with his first shot since returning, Kewell blazed an angled drive over the bar when well placed.

While Leicester rebounded to third place, Leeds slumped to 11th - 17 points behind leader Manchester United.

Kewell, who also missed the Olympics due to his surgery, at least appeared to pull up in fine condition and will be in contention to return to the starting side when Leeds heads into a daunting Champions League match away to Lazio next Tuesday.

There was also more misery for Aussies in the Premier League relegation zone, with John Aloisi's Coventry and Mark Schwarzer's Middlesbrough also losing.

Aloisi put Coventry in front after 64 minutes at fellow battlers Bradford, with a fine lobbed goal following a run down the left flank.

But his effort was overtaken when Bradford's Stan Collymore and substitute Peter Beagrie scored in the last 10 minutes for a 2-1 win.

Aloisi could have also scored late in the first half but after beating Bradford keeper Matt Clarke put in an awful mis-kick which was comfortably cleared by defender Robert Molenaar.

And Middlesbrough, who had Socceroo captain Paul Okon on the bench for the first time since a foot injury in September, stumbled 1-0 at West Ham to be left second last on 11 points - equal with stragglers Bradford.

Super Aussie striker happy to stay in the background

1860 Munich striker Paul Agostino has emerged as a shock target for AC Milan, according to German press reports.

The Australian striker, formerly of English club Bristol City, has made a big impression in the Bundesliga and in Europe this season, impressing in 1860's recent 2-2 draw at Parma.

The *Munchener Tagezeitung* and *AZ* both claim Milan are keen on the 25-year-old, but 1860 president Karl-Heinz Wildmoser insists he will turn down any approach.

"We won't let Paul leave for any money in the world not even DM100 million ($90million)," he said.

"I won't allow my team to be torn apart."

Paul Agostino has this season exploded onto Europe's transfer rumour mill with a sparkling opening for German club 1860 Munich, reaping the benefits of his first injury-free season at the club.

1860 has recently gone through the horrors of an eight-game winless streak to tumble to fourth-last in the Bundesliga but Agostino - like Viduka in England - is near the top of the scorers' list.

He has scored nine goals, three behind the leader, in the league to share second place, and has bagged another four in European competitions.

The former West Adelaide striker still escapes much of the notice in his home country, which tends to focus on Viduka, his Leeds teammate Harry Kewell and Manchester United's Mark Bosnich.

But the quietly-spoken 25-year-old says he doesn't labour under any attention deficit syndrome, and it's easy to believe him.

"I don't mind playing a background role," said Agostino, who has another Aussie team-mate at 1860 in Ned Zelic. "I don't have to read headlines about me all the time. As long as I'm doing my job I'm quite happy to take a back seat."

NSW Premier League

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www.nswpremierleague.com

Round 6 Fixtures

Saturday 9 December

FIRST GRADE: KICK OFF 7pm, UNDER 19s: 5pm

Leichhardt v Penrith Panthers	Lambert Park
Sutherland v Central Coast	Seymour Shaw
Blacktown City v St George	The Gabbie

FIRST GRADE: KICK OFF 6.30pm, UNDER 19s: 4.30pm

Belconnen v Bonnyrigg	Greenway Oval

Sunday 10 December

FIRST GRADE: KICK OFF 6.30pm, UNDER 19s: 4.30pm

Parramatta Eagles v Canterbury	Melita Stadium

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SuperSoccer NEWS ..... SuperSoccer NEWS ..... SuperSoccer NEWS ..... Super-

Auckland wary of fire sale as Carlton teeter on the brink

WHAT a week it was for Melbourne-based Carlton Soccer Club.

Last week their cash troubles, which had flaunted with the sports pages for over a season, finally burst out in an eruption of press attention.

The cash-strapped club even asked Soccer Australia for a lifeline to help it trade out of its troubles, at a time when one of the main criteria for inclusion in the 2001 NSL was financial stability.

The club has not paid its players for six weeks, will have to sell key players to survive and investors have been scared off as they know four teams will be cut from the competition next season.

Professional Footballers' Association chief executive Brendan Schwab met with Carlton owner Peter Jess and players late last week, in an effort to thrash out a solution which would allow the club to continue and ensure the players were paid.

Schwab said Soccer Australia would be approached to allow the club access to its $250,000 licence fee and to a $250,000 bank guarantee which is supposed to have been lodged.

The money would be paid into a trust account and funds would be drawn to pay the team and staff wages for the rest of the season.

Schwab and Jess also met with league general manager Stefan Kamasz.

"Our immediate goal is to ensure that Carlton continues to field a team," Schwab said, adding the release of the funds was a creative solution to the problem.

This period of grace would allow Carlton to explore restructuring, refinancing and new equity options as well as possible transfer income.

Schwab also took a swipe at Carlton for trying to offload star player Simon Colosimo to a European club in order to save the club.

"It is absolutely unfair to put a young player in that kind of situation," he said.

He said Colosimo should only move if it was in the best interests of his career.

"It clearly isn't Simon's responsibility to keep the club afloat and his team-mates in employment," Schwab said.

Meanwhile, Carlton coach Stuart Munro admitted the club's off-field woes were starting to take their toll.

The pressure of not knowing where their next pay cheque will come from is playing on the minds of the full-time professionals.

"It's a big worry when you are going into games and worrying more about what's happening off the park," Munro said.

He admitted the intensity had dropped at training and was unsure how the players would react if the problems continued.

And understandably Simon Colosimo's management is becoming uneasy about the financial mess surrounding the Carlton Soccer Club – and in particular, Colosimo's evolving role as player and potential saviour.

Manager, George Christopoulos denied that the Socceroo defender had knocked back an offer to join Scottish Premier League club Dundee in a $1m deal that reportedly involved a share package in the club.

A sale would help to ease the cash flow problems for Carlton's owner, Peter Jess.

"His financial problems and Simon's career are two separate issues.

"You can't put pressure on a player and say you've got to go to this club for this fee, for this contract, or else your team-mates are going to lose their jobs," said Christopoulos.

"The last thing we want is to do 'something that's going to destroy the club.

"But he's taken the responsibility of funding the club. He shouldn't be relying on player transfers to do so.

"That's a separate issue." Of the issue of selling players Carlton owner Peter Jess said: "We only need one and we're secure. If we get two or three up, that's fine. We've just got to work through it all."

Christopoulos remains wary.

"It's crunch time for Peter. He's got to provide some cash for wages," he said.

"If it doesn't happen, there's a group of players who've got certain things they want to say and do, then it becomes a day-to-day proposition for Peter Jess," he said.

"If he's not paying the wages, I don't think he's going to find the players are going to stick around for too much longer.

"I think they've been very patient. The union has been patient.

"They all feel that Carlton has been a great opportunity for all of them.

"They don't want to leave there, but you can't just sit there playing for nothing if you're a professional player,"

Christopoulos said Colosimo wouldn't consider Dundee, because he's unlikely to be granted a work permit in Great Britain.

Unless he's able to secure an Italian passport, Colosimo's overseas options remain limited.

"Simon just really wants to get back on the park and perform well and keep the interest high and get other parties involved.

"At the same time he needs to work on some of the complex issues which would enable him to get an Italian passport or a work permit in the UK.

"There'll be clubs interested, and eventually he'll get overseas. There's no doubt about that. But the crisis really now, is whether Carlton can be saved."

And the Football Kingz are watching developments at crisis-stricken National Soccer League club Carlton with a lot of interest, general-manager Chris Turner revealed.

The cash-strapped Melbourne club has at least four players the Kingz are interested in.

Kingz coaches Wynton and Shane Rufer have made no secret of their desire to recruit Carlton's two All Whites Mark Atkinson and Sean Douglas.

The brilliant form of two other players – striker Archie Thompson who is wanted by both New Zealand and Australia, and Socceroo Simon Colosimo – has the Kingz on alert for sponsors or funds.

"We're keeping an eye on what is happening there and what eventually develops," Turner said.

"It is a shame really because they're not only a good club but they've got a very good squad and they are performing on the field.

"For sure we'd be interested in a couple of players and our coaches have made no secret of that fact.

"But the bottom line is the dollar and right now we wouldn't be able to get anyone if there was a fire sale."

However, sponsorship backing such as that which allowed the Kingz to recruit both Aaran Lines and Mark Burton, might provide an answer in that situation, he said.

"At the moment we've used up our budget and that is not a bottomless pit but who knows what might come up if quality players like those come on the market.

"We've had benefactors turn up on our behalf before and it could happen again."

PARRAMATTA EAGLES

V

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Romario criticises FIFA Player of the Year award

BRAZILIAN striker Romario (pictured) criticised FIFA's World Player of the Year award last Tuesday after three European-based players were nominated for the title.

"I don't know what sort of criteria they use if it leaves out players like me, (Juan Roman) Riquelme and (Ariel) Ortega," said the 34-year-old striker, who has scored seven goals in his last two internationals.

"I've broken various records this year," added Romario, who plays for Rio de Janeiro's Vasco da Gama.

FIFA announced that Rivaldo of Barcelona and Brazil, Luis Figo of Real Madrid and Portugal and Zinedine Zidane of Juventus and France had been nominated.

Romario, who won the award in 1994 after leading Brazil to World Cup victory, was top scorer in this year's Carioca championship with 19 goals and in the season-opening Rio-Sao Paulo tournament in which he scored 12 in 10 games.

He still hopes to finish the Joao Havelange Cup, which has replaced the Brazilian championship, as top scorer as well.

He has scored 15 so far and is five behind joint leaders Dill (Goias) and Magno Alves (Fluminense), whose teams have already been knocked out.

Riquelme and Ortega, who are based in their native Argentina with Boca Juniors and River Plate respectively, have both had an outstanding year.

Riquelme figured prominently in Boca's 2-1 victory over Real Madrid in the World Club Cup final in Tokyo.

Ortega scored a goal worthy of Diego Maradona at his best in Argentina's 2-1 win over Chile in a World Cup qualifier last month.

FIFA'S Player of the Year award, decided on a vote among 130 national team coaches, was started in 1991 and has been awarded four times to Europeans, four times to South Americans and once to an African. However, it has never gone to a player based with a club outside Europe.

Dorigo impressed by relentless Liverpool

VETERAN Stoke defender Tony Dorigo looked back on one of the most embarrassing nights of his career and admitted: "Liverpool were relentless."

The Australian-born former England international was part of the side which suffered a humiliating 8-0 Worthington Cup exit at the Britannia Stadium. Dorigo and his Second Division team-mates were powerless to resist the visitors' attacking onslaught in what turned into the biggest away win in Liverpool's history.

Robbie Fowler led the romp with a hat-trick, although with the Reds low on confidence after a dismal run in the Premiership, the game might have taken a different turn in Peter Thorne had found the target with an open goal at his mercy when the scores were still level.

Instead, Thorne inexplicably hit a post and Liverpool immediately took the lead through Christian Ziege. Vladimir Smicer, Markus Babbel and Fowler added to the advantage before the interval. When the teams returned to the field, Sami Hyypia and Danny Murphy took the total to six before Fowler completed his personal haul with two late goals.

"If we had scored early on, it might have put some pressure on them, particularly when you consider the kind of results Liverpool have been having lately," said Dorigo.

"We had an easy chance and didn't take it and from then on we were in trouble. What really impressed us was their relentless pursuit of goals.

"They worked very hard for each other and have probably regained their confidence now.

"I have certainly never been on the end of a scoreline like that and by the end it was just embarrassing."

Sapphires take the sting with five goal rout

By Marc Barnett

THE NSW Sapphires secured second place on the WNSL ladder with a comprehensive 5-0 victory over Adelaide Sensation.

The win means that NSW will now host the semi final against 3rd placed Northern NSW on Saturday the 9th of December at St George Stadium.

The win was the best result this season for the Sapphires and things seem to be coming together at the right time.

The Sapphires started the match on fire, when in the 3rd minute a rehearsed play from a Catherine Cannuli corner lead to a goal from Lisa Warrener.

NSW then went about building on their lead when Justine McLaughlin found the back of the net in the 24th minute after a free kick from Anissa Tann-Darby and a good ball from Michelle Carney.

Just one minute before the half time break Lisa Warrener just missed her second goal finding the cross bar, but Michelle Carney made no mistake with the rebound for a 3-0 lead at half time.

The second half saw Taryn Rockall build on her leading goal scorer tally with her 6th for the season a fine individual effort.

The Sapphires then rounded off the game nicely with young Striker Catherine Cannuli scoring her first National League goal with a clinical finish coming on the end of a Tann-Darby through ball.

NSW Sapphires coach Allan Bourke gave all his substitutes a run on the park and was thoroughly pleased with his teams performance.

"The whole team held their intensity for the full 90 minutes, we just never let South Australia get into the game," said the coach.

Bourke also went on to say that he was happy with the way the goals were scored, with rehearsed plays being executed very well.

Bourke felt the performances of Warrener, Cannuli, Carney and McLaughlin were impressive, especially that of 14-year-old Striker Catherine Cannuli.

It was Cannuli's first start in the WNSL, getting her chance with the suspension of Kelly Golebiowski, and she made the most of it with a tireless performance.

All in all it was a clear indication of what the Sapphires are capable of on their day, and if they are able to continue with this form against Northern NSW, a Grand Final appearance looks ominous.

and leaving the Victorians to finish in 5th place, missing out on the semi final.

For the ACT, it was the only point they secured in the National League, bringing a very dismal season to an end.

The Women's National League is now down to just two games to go.

NSW Sapphires will clash with traditional rivals Northern NSW in the semi final with the winner earning the right to take on Queensland in the Grand Final.

NSW captain Anissa Tann Darby

IN OTHER WNSL news, Queensland recorded a 2-0 victory over Northern NSW with a goal in either half, the second from a penalty, to keep their undefeated record intact.

However, Northern NSW were also celebrating, having kept the margin to only two goals meant that they would finish in third place ahead of Adelaide on for and against.

Northern NSW will clash with rivals the NSW Sapphires in Saturdays Semi Final for the right to take on QLD in the Grand Final.

Heartbreak for Jane Oakley's Victorian side, who were leading 2-1 in the final minutes of their clash with ACT.

Victoria who would have grabbed third place with a win then conceded an own goal, leaving the final score at 2-2

NSW beat Northern NSW 5-1 in round 3 of the season, and on current form it would be hard to predict anything but more of the same in the upcoming semi final.

However, NSW will be somewhat under strength, with four players on the Australian Schoolgirls tour, injuries and other personal commitments, Allan Bourke will have just 14 players in his squad available for selection.

Although down on numbers, Bourke still has the core of his starting line up available and will just make minor cosmetic changes around that to field his side.

The Australian Schoolgirls will be back in time to play in the Grand Final if the Sapphires are able to progress through.

FOOTBALL PATROL ..... FOOTBALL PATROL

Former Newcastle and Spirit striker Olympian CLAYTON ZANE is still undecided about his immediate future.

Zane was trialling with English first division side Queens Park Rangers on the strength of a potential loan/transfer deal from his Norwegian club side Molde.

He played in a QPR midweek reserves fixture which finished in a nil-all draw against Portsmouth but is now looking to further trials in Spain and Germany.

CRAIG MOORE looks set to miss the rest of the Scottish Premier League season.

Moore, currently in Sydney, has reportedly undergone more surgery on a troublesome knee injury which has kept him out of action with club side Rangers.

CON BOUTSIANIS played his 150th match for South Melbourne, when his team travelled to Bruce Stadium to take on the Canberra Cosmos last Saturday night.

The 28-year-old striker played at South from 1989 to 1995, before moving to Collingwood in season 96-97, then back to South Melbourne for season 97-98.

He then transferred to Perth Glory for season 98-99, before returning back to his home club for the current campaign.

Sydney Olympic's GREG OWENS and DANNY BURT of Sydney United made their 50th NSL appearance last weekend, against the Brisbane Strikers and the Parramatta Power respectively.

Parramatta Power coach DAVID MITCHELL was attempting to win his 50th NSL game as coach when the Power came up against Sydney United in the local derby at Parramatta Stadium on Friday night.

After 111 games as coach, Mitchell's current WIN-DRAW-LOSS record before the match stood at 49-25-37.

Newcastle United goalkeeper BOB CATLIN again has the chance to create NSL history this weekend, when he aims to become the first goalkeeper to keep 100 clean sheets.

Catlin's first NSL club was Apia Leichhardt, where he played 22 games and kept five clean sheets between 1984 and 1985.

From 1987 until 1997 he played 209 games for the Marconi Stallions, keeping 70 clean sheets.

Another seven clean sheets were recorded in 26 games for Sydney Olympic in 1997-98, followed by 17 clean sheets in 61 games for the Newcastle Breakers from 1998 until 2000.

So far this season Catlin has kept one clean sheet in four matches for Newcastle United.

35-year-old Catlin is well ahead as the goalkeeper with the most clean sheets in NSL history.

The NSW/ACT NSL injury list is;

Parramatta Power
M Byrnes (foot - 6 weeks)
L Campbell (ankle - 2 weeks)
L Pogliacomi (back - 1 week)
Sydney United
V Savoca (ankle - 3 weeks)
G Talevski (ankle - 2 weeks)
Newcastle United
A Harper (toe - 2 weeks)
E Masi (knee - 4 weeks)
D Smith (groin - 4 weeks)
Canberra Cosmos
M Phillips (groin - 1 week)
I Prenzoski (quad - 1 week)
Sydney Olympic
S Baillie (calf - 3 weeks)
K Marusic (hip - 2 weeks)
Marconi
M Smith (groin - 2 weeks)
R Bove (knee - season)
S Radulovic (leg - 2 weeks)
Northern Spirit
R Slater (foot - indefinite)
G Mendez (knee - 1 week)

NORTHERN SPIRIT will welcome the world's best swimmers to North Sydney Oval, for a penalty shoot-out before the Spirit v Stallions match, Friday.

CON BOUTSIANIS played his 150th match for South Melbourne on Saturday night, when his team travelled to Bruce Stadium to take on the Canberra Cosmos.

The 28 year old striker played at South from 1989 to 1995, before moving to Collingwood in season 96-97, then back to South Melbourne for season 97-98.

He then transferred to Perth Glory for season 98-99, before returning back to his home club for the current campaign.

SOCCER CANBERRA president Steve Doszpot has been returned for another term after the ASCTSF AGM.

Manchester City striker DANNY ALLSOPP has been loaned out to second division club Notts County for one month where he teams up with defender Andrew McDermott.

It's Allsopp's second loan out this season, having only recently returned to City from a month at Bristol Rovers, also in the Second Division.

However the striker, who is in search of regular first team football, is keen to impress for the opportunity of a permanent move.

As reported in *SuperSoccer* several weeks ago, goalkeeper JOHN FILAN is unhappy at first division clube Blackburn Rovers, after being relegated to the bench by new buy Brad Friedel.

The former St Gorge and Wollongong City 'keeper has hit-out at his manager, Graeme Souness, in the British press over the move.

www.nswpremierleague.com

Patikas asks for the truth

By Bruce Campbell

THAT what has become known as the 'Jimmy Patikas Affair' has driven a wedge in a proud club is very sad.

Over the last couple of weeks the name of Canterbury Marrickville Olympic has never been far away from the newspaper headlines.

The Greek ethnic press in particular has had good copy out of the issue.

For his part, Jimmy Patikas is also very sad.

"I love the club," he said last week.

"All I wanted to do was to fulfil my contract with Canterbury.

"I had brought a whole new squad to the club and feel for the players."

Indeed some of those players were so incensed with what had happened when Patikas originally offered his resignation that they walked out of training.

That they later followed that up with an official letter of protest to the NSWSF was an indication of their ire.

Rarely do players take such consolidated action.

PLAYING DAYS at Sydney United. The 'Jimmy Patikas Affair' has been the main Premier League story over the last couple of weeks.

Particularly in an age when individual concern runs rampant in the round ball game.

"I wanted to cry when I read a lot of the stories that were printed in the press," added Patikas.

"The truth just wasn't being told. I just wanted to be allowed to compete what I had come to Canterbury to do.

"I thought that we had a squad which would be competitive.

"I'm not going to see that we could have won the league, that would probably have been too much in the first season, but we would have been competitive.

"We had put in four months hard training and just wanted to see the end result.

"The players had worked really hard and I feel for them.

"But I've got a reputation of which I am proud, I have to let people know that they can't screw me and get away with it.

"Canterbury is a top club and I think it is important that the truth comes out.

"Everybody in the game reads *SuperSoccer* and it is important that the whole story comes out."

Now, and after a stormy mid week Canterbury board meeting where the reigning administration was ousted, Patikas is on the sidelines.

He had been asked to coach the side in the interim but feeling at last week's early training sessions was tense.

As one player pout it: "It doesn't look good, the coaches are definitely anxious."

Patikas leaves with his head held high and his reputation intact. One of Australian football's modern icons will now look to other fields to pursue his dream of a role in the game as a full time coach.

He had looed to Canterbury to be that stepping stone but it wasn't to be, ousted in a flurry of politics rather than football.

Now the speculation is running about who will succeed him.

Lakis Konistis is definitely in the frame as is former coach Nick Theodorakopoulos. So too will be Dave Ratcliffe, like Nick T a former Wollongong coach.

The club is always stronger than the individual and life, as they say, goes on.

The tragedy for Canterbury is that they have parted company with a living legend in the game—and not on the best of terms.

PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER

Saturday December 9

Belconnen Blue Devils

v

Bonnyrigg White Eagles

Greenway Oval
Tuggeranong

Under 19's kick-off at 4:30pm
First grade kick-off at 6:30pm

blue devils

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK IN FOOTBALL

NSW PREMIER LEAGUE
ROUND 6
Saturday 9 December
Leichhardt v Penrith Panthers
Sutherland v Central Coast
Belconnen v Bonnyrigg
Blacktown City v St George
Sunday 10 December
Parramatta Eagles v Canterbury

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE
ROUND 9
Friday 8 December
Kingz v Melbourne Knights
Northern Spirit v Marconi Stallions
Adelaide City v Carlton
Saturday 9 December
Perth Glory v Newcastle
Eastern Pride v Brisbane Strikers
Sunday 10 December
South Melbourne v Wollongong
Sydney United v Canberra
Sydney Olympic v Parramatta Power

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE
ROUND 9
Friday 8 December
NSWIS v Sydney Olympic Academy
Saturday 9 December
Sydney United v Canberra Cosmos
Northern Spirit v Marconi Stallions Youth
Sunday 10 December
Marconi Stallions Colts v Wollongong Wolves
Sydney Olympic Youth v Parramatta Power
ACT Academy v Newcastle United
Newcastle United Colts v QAS
BYE: AIS

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Coasties enter women's leagues

By Ray Sandell

THE Coasties have taken another step in he promotion of football on the Central Coast with the formation of a women's section of the club.

At the Annual General Meeting held two weeks ago the club appointed a Women's Football Director to the executive committee.

This position was filled by Mrs Chris Hornery, the club's former Sponsorship and Marketing Director.

Teams have been entered in the NSW Soccer Federation Women's State League and Girl's Youth League competition. First Grade and Under 19 will contest the State League and Under 14 and Under 16 teams will play in the Girls League.

Whilst the Women's State League is an established Federation competition, the two girls youth competitions are new leagues due to commence in 2001.

In addition the Coasties will also have Under 11, 12 and 13 development squads which will train weekly and hopefully compete in the local Central Coast Soccer Association's Women's Competition.

The women's senior teams have been in training for a number of weeks under coach Terry Donnelly and the first grade especially appears to be set for a good opening season with many experienced players, including some former Super League and State representatives already registered with the club.

The attendance at all training sessions has been outstanding and the interest in women's soccer on the Coast, especially at the younger age groups, is booming.

Senior men's coach Dale Eggleton has been attending some of the training and trial sessions and is greatly surprised at the work load being put in and the skills being shown by all age groups.

Part of the criteria for clubs competing in the NSW Premier League is that all clubs are expected to enter teams in an appropriate women's competition as soon as possible.

By forming separate directorship and sub committees to take on this task the Coasties have shown their intention to remain as one of the leaders in the promotion of football not only on the Central Coast but state-wide.

As mentioned in previous articles the women's and girl's teams will be playing their home matches at Pluim Park and will not be dispatched to 'bush' venues as has been the case in other women's teams on the Coast.

Premier League Youth Select to face Glasgow Rangers

By John White

NEW South Wales State Coach Brian Brown (pictured) is set to call up a squad of 16 players for a match against Glasgow Rangers Under 21 side in January.

The Rangers Scottish Premier League youth team will be in Australia for a lighting tour at the turn of the year and ara expected to play several matches.

Brown's squad will feature Premier League players aged Under 20.

"I will be looking at players over the next couple of weeks and also looking for a bit of input from other Premier League coaches," he said of the international challenge match.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the players and I am sure there will be a lot of interest in the game.

"It would have been easier to pick a squad if it had been for all age players and I am sure that a full strength Premier League team would give Rangers run for their money.

"But it will be great for the younger players—even although I'll have to work that wee bit harder to get a good squad."

Brown's last State game was against Queensland when the SoccerBlues won 3-2.

Other NSW games next year will include a match against the ACT.

RECORD BOOK SCRAMBLE

BLACKTOWN'S single goal victory against Penrith last weekend puts them on a streak of 24 games without loss.

That has easily overtaken NSL record of 22 games undefeated by APIA between 1986 and 1987.

But it hasn't matched the NSW State League record which is held by Sydney Croatia (now Sydney United).

Croatia went through the 26-game 1981 NSW State League season undefeated.

They also had some undefeated games at the end of the 1980 season and at the start of the 1982 season to extend this streak.

But Blacktown's continued run has sent the statisticians at NSWSF scrambling for the record books.

Wolves hit-man looking for World Club platform as career bonus

By Bryan Cokely

"Devastated and distraught" was how Stuart Young felt after his side lost the final round of last year's National Soccer League.

"I was inconsolable in the dressing room, no one could talk to me," he said.

Wollongong had, Young thought, just lost the title to Perth Glory in a dramatic game at Brandon Park which meant to him that the West Australians were the Champions of Australia for the first time, Wollongong were pipped at the final hurdle.

But then Young realized that coming first in the League table is not that important here.

After all, this is Australia not England.

And so History will tell the tale that Wollongong and Stuart Young had not only a second chance against Perth in the semis but also a third in the greatest of Grand Finals at Perth Oval in front of 40,000 people.

Hey, Stuart how many chances do you want to be champions?

"We'll have three, thanks very much", he said with a laugh realizing the irony in the situation and also his good fortune at being in the right place at the right time.

Though ironically Young was unaware that 12 years earlier Wollongong had, in similar circumstances won the minor premiership on the final day.

But unfortunately for that team the jubilation in the dressing room was soured later with the realization that for the first time in Australian soccer history it would be the grand final winners, Marconi, who would be crowned champions.

A decade of wandering has concluded nicely for Young who had somehow seen a promising career at Arsenal fade into lower league obscurity with the likes of Hull, Northampton, Scunthorpe, Scarborough and then F.A. cup giant killers Blyth Spartans.

The downward spiral continued with a move from obscurity to anonymity in Singapore.

Well at least anonymity outside of that Asian peninsula.

Three years of uneven, bumpy grounds at best and uneven soggy grounds in hot humid conditions at worst were his lot, before a chance move to Wollongong, and an unexpected bonus of his best season ever.

Young, said: "My first season here was pretty good I thoroughly enjoyed it."

Pretty good? A master of understatement too.

"The standard in Asia was poor," said Young.

"And it was a lot different to back home.

"But here the standard is in some way is similar to what I was used to in England.

"Perhaps not as physical here and not as quick either."

And the Grand Final, had he ever played in a game like that?

"No I'd never played in a game like that before.

"I had played in a couple of F.A. Cup ties for Hull versus Chelsea and Newcastle United which were good.

"But the entire Grand Final day was excellent, it's the one day where soccer in Australia gets to have a go I think."

This season Young works by day in the Wollongong Wolves soccer office where, he says he is starting to get the hang of it.

New adventures wait around the corner with the Oceania leg of the World Club Championship.

And then, who knows?

Young is not counting chickens or any other kind of bird before they hatch, as he knows from his time in Singapore what the humidity will be like in Papua New Guinea for the Oceania championships.

"It is not going to be easy," he said.

"The conditions will be hard and with that many games in so short a space of time anything could happen".

For those reasons Young is clinging to the hope that Auckland, Fiji or indeed Wollongong will host the tournament.

The current political jostling for the Oceania presidency involving Basil Scarsella has seen our Soccer Federation afraid to tread on Pacific toes.

But really this tournament deserves better than it is currently getting and should not be used for football missionary work in the Pacific Islands.

Though if Wollongong are successful and make it to Spain then what an ending to the archetypal journeyman career that would be for Stuart Young.

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Restructured Federation Leagues

THE restructure of New South Wales senior football following the introduction of the summer-based Premier League competition will see several changes in Super League and Division 1.

Both competitions will consist of 12 teams and ill kick off in March, overlapping with the Premier League which is now the senior competition in New South Wales.

Divisions 2, 3 and 4 are expected to be finalized shortly also with some clubs from last year's Federation leagues expected to withdraw.

SUPER LEAGUE
AC United (promoted from Division 1)
Bankstown City
Dulwich Hill (promoted from Division 1)
Hurstville City Minotaurs (promoted from Division 1)
Fairfield Bulls
Fraser Park (promoted from Division 1)
Hadjuk Wanderers (promoted from Division 1)
Macarthur Rams
Manly Warringah
MSC Liverpool (promoted from Division 1)
Rockdale City Suns
Stanmore Hawks

DIVISION 1
Auburn United
Bathurst '75
Greystanes (promoted from Division 2)
Hills United (promoted from Division 2)
Belmore Hercules (promoted from Division 2)
Hurstville ZSC (promoted from Division 2)
Illawarra Lions
Mt Druitt Town (promoted from Division 2)
Mt Pritchard (promoted from Division 2)
Ryde City
Sydney University (promoted from Division 2)
White City (promoted from Division 2)

Schoolboys Undefeated

The Australian Schoolboys "A" team remains undefeated so far in its five match tour of New Caledonia and Vanuatu.

In their first two matches against the New Caledonian Under 16 National squad where they proved too strong which saw the final results of 5-0 and 10-2.

The Vanuatu Under 20 team, using the matches as preparation for the upcoming Oceania qualifiers, proved much sterner opposition.

However, the Aussies won both matches, both due to late goals, 3-1 and 2-1.

Outstanding players on tour have included Amied Shadmaan (ACT), Simon Bernadino (SA) and Chris Scuderi (Qld) whilst Simon Mitchell scored five goals in the 10-2 win over New Caledonia.

"The tour so far has proven to be an outstanding success", ASSSA media liaison Richard Beazley was quoted as saying.

Watford snub Aussie striker

WATFORD have told Australian striker Chad Mansley they do not want him.

The 20-year-old had an impressive pre-season trial with the club, scoring six goals in five games, and was invited back in September.

Mansley made six further appearances for the reserves, scoring twice, but manager Graham Taylor felt he could not command a regular first-team place at Vicarage Road.

Taylor said: "Chad's attitude has been first-class and he has done very well. However, I couldn't see him being more than one of a number of strikers.

"Therefore, I felt it better to let him go elsewhere, and I believe he has another club to go to."

Socceroos finish J League season

SOCCEROOS Tony Popovic (pictured right) and Steve Corica both played full games, and both picked up yellow cards as Sanfrecce Hiroshima beat Verdi Kawasaki 2-1 away from home, to finish the second stage in 11th position in the J League.

Sanfrecce assistant coach Mike Hickman is now back in Sydney while speculation continues to grow that the J League club's head coach and former Socceroo boss, has been offered a position at NSLK side Marconi.

Current Marconi coach Edi Krncevic is sad to be under fire after a string of poor and mediocre results at the influential west Sydney club.

The drawback of having young stars

FOR the second season in a row Branko Culina's youngsters at Sydney Olympic have caused more than their share of early season upsets.

Despite losing to Brisbane Strikers at the weekend, a side that has long been a thorn for the Olympic coach, the Sydney side remain high flying.

More importantly Culina's young guns are playing with a certain style and flair which has become a hallmark of the Victorian.

But success has its own perils—particularly in Australian football, and particularly when you have so many outstanding talented youngsters in your side.

Last season Culina's young guns strode to the top of the league only to falter in alarming style.

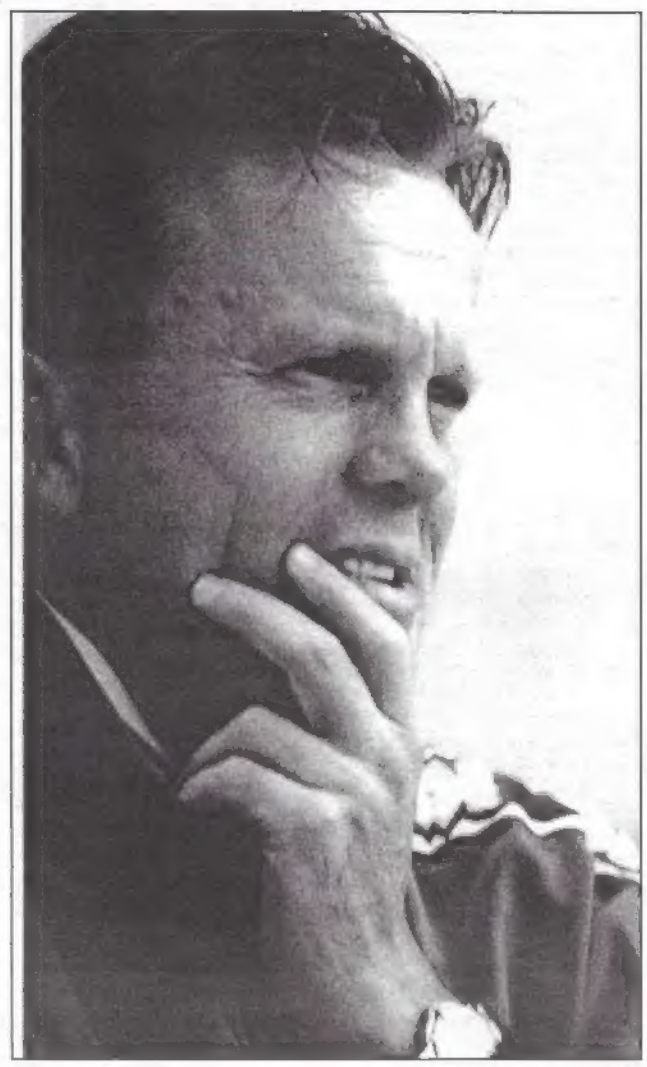
In the end they were lucky to make the finals.

"We had to win our last game to make it," recalls Culina.

"If we hadn't been at the top of the league earlier on then we wouldn't have been in that position."

That last game was full of irony.

It was against Sydney United, the team with which Culina made his name, and all three goals were scored by his young guns—Cardozo, Carle and Emerton.



Injuries caused problems but by far the biggest loss was the absence of young stars like Brett Emerton.

"No club can afford to lose players like that," says Culina.

"They were very important to our success and we suffered when they were called away for national duty."

The year before it was a similar case, but that tine Olympic missed out on the finals.

It is almost a drawback to have internationals in your team structure.

In fact it isn't 'almost', it definitely 'is'.

Despite that Branko Culina remains upbeat about football and Sydney Olympic in particular.

He is also resigned to losing Nick Carle and Greg Owens for periods.

"We'll probably lose three to four players at various stages," he says.

"That's a lot to lose from any team.

"But it is even worse when they are your best players."

Culina has his sights on Pablo Cardozo (exclusively revealed in *SuperSoccer)* but other than that has no other likely signing.

"No, not yet," he says.

"It doesn't look like we'll make any other signings but you never know."

Advertising on national shirts under discussion

FIFA will discuss whether to allow advertising on the jerseys of national teams and of referees in national leagues and cups.

Currently, clubs are allowed to have ads on their jerseys but national teams are not.

FIFA's strategic study committee will discuss whether to end the ban when it meets in Rome on December 8, two days before a FIFA executive committee meeting.

FIFA's referee's committee recommended that advertising be permitted "under very restricted conditions."

The discussion about advertising on referees jerseys will take place in the executive committee and be limited to leagues and cups, not international competition.

FIFA's strategic study committee will discuss whether future World Cups should be rotated among continents, a plan that emerged after Germany defeated South Africa in the vote to stage the 2006 tournament.

Africa has never been host to a World Cup.

The study committee also will talk about the future of soccer in the Olympics, where FIFA has limited the men's tournaments to Under-23 teams, with each nation permitted three wild-card players over the age limit.

The executive committee will discuss whether to increase the field for the FIFA Club World Championship from 12 to 16 for next year's tournament in Spain.

It is expected to approve a recommendation from the women's committee that the 2003 Women's World Cup be staged in China, where the first tournament was held in 1991.

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THE BEST COVERAGE OF THE NSW PREMIER LEAGUE
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Bruce Campbell

TALKING FOOTBALL

PARRAMATTA Power have, in Joe Miller, a player who has the ability to drift past defenders as they were either in limbo or stone statues.

With a jink he glides into space, dragging the ball with him with the deft skills of a bygone age.

Older fans will remember players like George Best, Johann Cruyff and Rodney Marsh, all treasured icons whose reputations have passed down the years.

Players from my homeland will remember the great 'Slim Jim' Baxter.

Blacktown City had a player like that until last week, Damian Brown.

Now that Browny has stepped up to the NSL, coincidentally with Parramatta Power also, it remains to be seen whether or not he can ghost past opposition defenders in the big league with such dazzling pace.

If he can the signs are ominous.

Parramatta would possess two crowd pleasers on both flanks.

They also have the ability to change the shape of the game by bringing in a more orthodox front runner like Hamilton Thorp.

Then there is the enigmatic Joel Griffiths.

The possible permutations are mind boggling and are sure to give the Power coaching duo of Mitchell and McKinna many pleasant ponderables.

The abilities of someone like Joe Miller, however, deserve a far bigger crowd than the Power are getting just now.

At this level he is certainly a rare talent and with a bit of luck will leave an indelible imprint on the game in this country.

Maybe his wing play magic will rub off on Damian Brown and transfer him into the kind of player that a lot of people believe he can become.

But does stylish play bring rewards at the turnstiles?

That is the big question.

I think that the answer might be just as simple; only if it is allied to results.

And whether it be at Premier League, National League or junior league in the park it is results alone which bring the crowds.

After results the fans start to get a bit hungry for style but there hasn't been a club in the world which can pack its terraces while at the bottom of the table—no matter how stylish it plays.

Best of luck to Power, they certainly have the makings of both a winning and a stylish side.

That also brings up the point of talent pool.

At a time when the flood of Australian kids to overseas football has reached flood proportions it is refreshing to note that we still have players of talent in our lower leagues.

The concept of the Premier League isn't one of a pool of players for NSL clubs but there is no doubt that that will happen.

So far I have only seen two NSL coaches at any game.

That isn't to say that they haven't been there but Lawrie McKinna and Ivan Petkovic certainly have.

If one of the by-products of NSW's Premier league is that it strengthens football in Australia overall then I don't think that too many people will be complaining.

I know that the Blacktown City bank manager is a happy man this week, the transfer fee for Brown coming at a time when the club has necessarily spent a lot of cash in the process of building a side which can attract interest from the NSL.

IT WOULD seem that the comment I made last week about the need for personalities in the game has cut deep, judging by some of the feedback. Some agree while, naturally, others do not. I suppose if you are in the comfort zone and your 'house full' sign is going up every week then you have plenty of personalities at your club. The fans obviously will think so too because they are the ones who will be putting their bums on seats.

Each and every club, at every level of the game, needs personalities because they are the ones who the fans will follow even when the team isn't doing so well. But big names are few and far between, whether we are talking about NSL, Premier League or Federation Division 4. That is why they command the biggest wages.

I can recall speaking to Sydney club a couple of seasons ago about advertising their fixtures and their answer was simple; they didn't need to because they were packing the ground every game. But times have changed and the public, which we all know is fickle anyway, has now changed its mind. Sure, advertising helps, but only if there is something to advertise in the first place.

The days of football fans just shelling out because they have little else to do with their time and money have changed. These days there is a lot of competition out their for the consumer dollar and I as a football fan want to see a good game, in good conditions, with plenty of star attractions on offer.

WHY not drop SuperSoccer a line? You don't have to agree, just make your point on any matter relating to football.

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Another second division?

THERE is a plan circulating around the country which, if taken to its full horizon, will see a two-tiered second division NSL structure in place.

The plan, which has emanated from Adelaide, will involve teams from across the nation but with a large content of New South Wales and Victorian clubs.

Obviously integral to the success of such a plan would be the inclusion of the likes of Blacktown City and Bonnyrigg White Eagles.

I believe that the main instigating factor behind the push is the fact that the existing NSL is being reduced rather that expanded, and reduced with no scope in the foreseeable future of any promotion and relegation.

That means that clubs which are investing significant amounts of human and cash resources see an artificial but very real barrier put in their way.

Involved in the planned scheme are a number of club officials who have had recent NSL experience.

But realistically there already is a second tier level of football in place, the NSW Premier League.

That is synchronised with the existing NSL summer format and it would seem that the introduction of a system of promotion and relegation is just a matter of time.

There are those at Parklea and Soccer Australia who are far more knowledgeable than I am with those areas of planned future direction.

It would be ludicrous to think that promotion and relegation are not constantly discussed by these top officials.

I am sure that everyone connected with the game sees that some kind of feeder chain is essential to the well-being of the game.

But State League football across Australia is littered with the skeletons of those clubs who were once part of the NSL.

While some of them were perhaps not quite ready for elite level competition the drop back to football in a season out of synch with the NSL has proven to be almost disastrous.

Blacktown City and Parramatta Eagles are perhaps the two best examples of clubs who have remained viable entities at Federation level while others like Inter Monaro, Mooroolbark and a host of others met with oblivion or near extinction.

Will the new plan get off the ground?

Who knows, but I still have a sneaking suspicion that it just adds to the creative bargaining of those current NSL clubs who are likely to remain in the following season after Soccer 2001 has been implemented—and at the 14 club level rather than the forecast 12 clubs.

The breakaway alternate league plan will almost certainly receive a lot of stick from the powers that be.

I am sure that they know that and have the determination to make the whole subject very interesting.

It only serves to show that there is far more interest in football than many imagine and I have no doubt that the concept, and realisation, of the NSW Premier League as an elite level summer competition had made a lot of people sit up and take notice.

As they say; stay tuned and we'll keep you posted.

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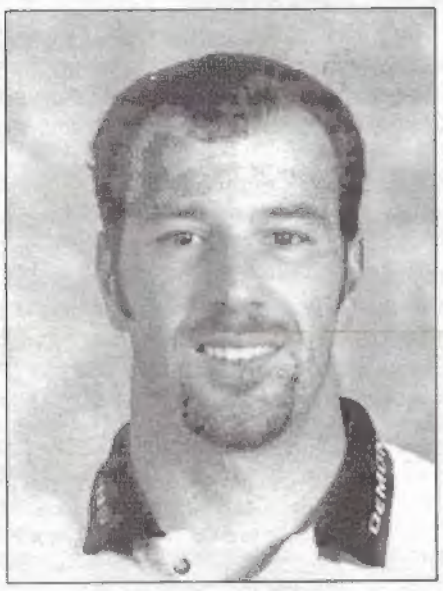
SPOTLIGHT ON
Jon Angelucci
CANBERRA COSMOS

Canberra Cosmos striker, Jon Angelucci, scored a double in his club's clash against the Wollongong Wolves to place himself among the NSL's top goal-scorers this season.

On a one-season loan to the Cosmos from Parramatta Power, the 24-year-old's outstanding form has helped Canberra achieve a result in three of the four successive away matches the club has played over recent weeks.

Indeed, Angelucci may prove to be the key to the Cosmos' quest for a Top Six position this season.



SuperSoccer:
The double on Friday night has made it five goals from four games for you in recent weeks.

What has been the secret of your great form this season?

Jon Angelucci:
Definitely getting the chance to play week in and week out.

The fact the team has been winning has also helped.

Everyone has been playing really well and we've been playing quite attacking football so the opportunities have been there for me to score.

In fact, I probably could have scored three or four on against the Wolves.

SuperSoccer:
The Cosmos was in eighth position on the league table (after the Wollongong match) after spending four weeks on the road - a run that produced two wins and a draw.

How does the team feel it is performing at this stage of the season?

Jon Angelucci:
Pretty well generally.

We've had good patches and bad patches and we'd probably like to be a bit more consistent, but to get seven points out of a possible 12 away is pretty good; if you'd offered us that beforehand, we'd have taken it.

Hopefully now we can show some good home form to build our momentum for the rest of the season.

SuperSoccer:
You're on loan from Parramatta to the Cosmos.

What were the circumstances of your move to Canberra and how are you enjoying it so far?

Jon Angelucci:
Basically I came to Canberra because there were too many strikers at Parramatta and I would have been in and out of the senior team during the season.

The Power offered me the chance to go on loan to Canberra and I agreed in principle, then [Cosmos coach Tom Sermanni] rang me up and we discussed it.

I've known Tommy for about eight years so it was quite an easy decision.

It's nice and relaxed in Canberra, my team-mates are a good bunch of guys and it's great to get a match every week.

SuperSoccer:
What do you hope to gain from your time with the Cosmos?
Jon Angelucci:
I just want to have a solid year getting a game week-in, week-out and see how many goals I can score with a whole season under my belt.

I have no real plans beyond that at this stage.

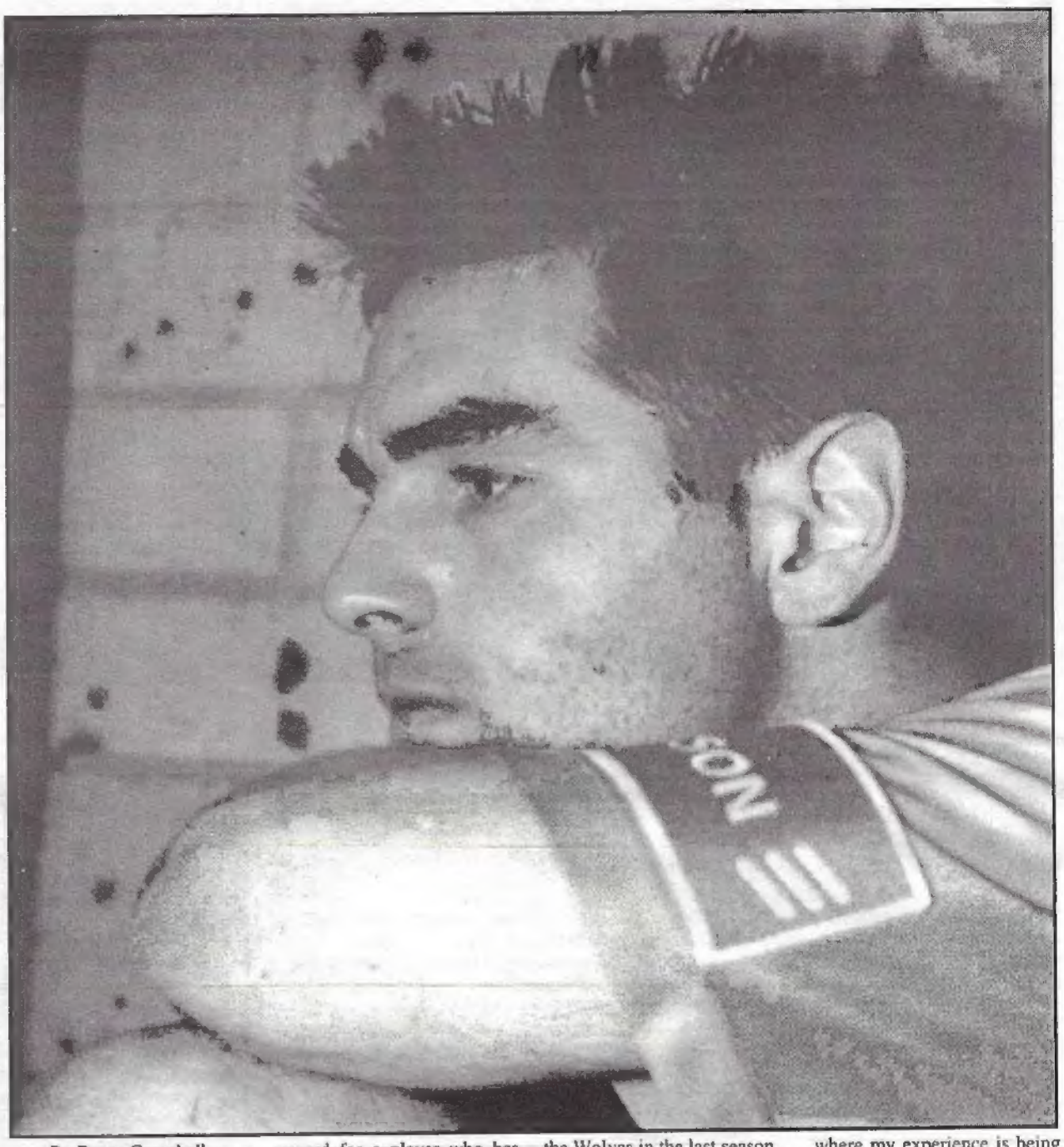
SuperSoccer:
What are your long-term career aspirations?
Jon Angelucci:
I'd definitely like to pursue a career as a footballer and to be able to make a decent living out of it.

Obviously a good year this year will improve my chances of doing that because my contract with Parramatta runs out at the end of the season so I'll be a free agent.

Most people see me as a striker and that's what I'd prefer to focus on long-term, but I don't mind playing in the midfield either.

With acknowledgement to Soccer Australia.

Robbie Stanton, master of many positions



By Bruce Campbell

ROBBIE Stanton bagged two goals in the Wolves away game success on Friday night against Newcastle United.

It was a welcome touch for a player who had been overlooked at the beginning of the season yet had plugged away with the limited opportunities that he had received.

The week before he had started a game for the first time this season, but in the unfamiliar role of left back.

"I don't think I have played left back since my Marconi days," said Stanton afterwards.

"And I only played a couple of games there."

That he was out of position, and his teammate Matt Horsley was caught out of position, was cruelly exposed in the second half as David Arranz and Shane Lyons exploited the glaring corner flag holes to steer Canberra Cosmos to a shock win.

Maybe the shortage of first team players at the Wolves had caused Stanton's ill at ease season starting 'debut' but it didn't seem a fitting reward for a player who has given such magnificent service to the National League over the last ten years.

Still only 28 he is hardly in the veteran class and the hero of Portugal '91 might find that he is on his way at the end of this current season.

Clearly he doesn't figure in Wollongong coach Ron Carry's number one plans—a complete turn around from the championship season when he was an ever-present.

This season Corry has drafted in teenager Ben Blake and relegated Stanton to a bit player's role.

That he has the number four shirt on his back and started the season with the fourth current highest club appearances would seemingly be irrelevant.

For his part, Stanton seems to be resigned to that.

"There are eight players at the club who are out of contract at the end of the season," he says.

That is a strange position for any national championship winning club to find itself in and maybe indicative of the behind-the-scenes problems at the Wolves in the last season.

Rocked by internal politics which saw a change at the chairman level and then racked once more by a move to the unpopular WIN Stadium further dissension was evident as stories leaked about late Grand Final player bonus payments.

The Wolves have always been a tight knit club and the new-found unrest doesn't sit well with the town's hard core fans.

And Stanton's new role in the team?

"I suppose I have to be content to playing anywhere on the park," he admits.

"It would seem that that is where my experience is being best used.

"I think my game has suffered because I am being used as a player who can fit in in a number of spots rather than playing in a specialised role."

That has seen Stanton come off the bench in a variety of fill-in and stop-gap positions—anywhere it seems but central defence.

It might just be that the Sydney-based master of all positions will be playing his last season with the champions.

That would be a pity for a club where he has become an out-of-town local hero—and a pity for one of the game's real nice guys.

Going Up

PREMIER League leaders Blacktown City have plans to add to their stadium at The Gabbie.

Discussion is ongoing at present with options on enclosing the under area of the present stand or adding another stand on the opposite side.

The new structure would house dressing sheds and administrative offices.

The project has a budget in the region of $600,000.

A SuperSoccer Special

PARRAMATTA FOOTBALL

The birthplace of football in Australia

PARRAMATTA is the birthplace of football in Australia, started in 1880 when the Wanderers club was formed by two Englishmen, J.W. Fletcher and J.A. Todd.

The two settlers met in the Aarons Hotel on August 3 and within a fortnight, on August 14, their new club, the Wanderers, played the Kings School at Parramatta Common in the first recorded match.

The Wanderers ran out easy winners by five goals to nil.

A crowd of 1,000 watched the game with the Wanderers playing in their new club colours of white shirts and shorts and blue hose.

The predominantly English club lined up as; J.A. Todd (captain), W.J. Baker, J. W. Fletcher, C. Hewlett, W Robertson, C.F. Fletcher, Chapman, Wastingaye, D Raburgh, W Simpson and J Scott.

Following that first ever organised football match the first organised competition in New South Wales was held just a few years later - in 1885 under the auspices of the South British Football Association.

The SBFA organised a league competition called the 'Badge Series' (badge-like shield medals being awarded to the winners) as well as a knockout competition for the Rainsford Cup.

But two years prior to the start of the Badge series, in 1883, a New South Wales representative side had already visited Victoria.

This was the first colonial intra-state match.

The following year Victoria travelled to Sydney.

New ground was also broken when the SBFA sent its first New South Wales representative side to Victoria for the "inter-colonial" match, although the Victorians defied the optimism of the *Daily Telegraph* writer by sending them homewards with a 4-0 thumping.

The inter colonial challenge was played at the East Melbourne Cricket Ground in front of a 600 crowd.

Wanderers supplied five of the NSW players while Caledonians supplied the other six.

The team left for Melbourne on the night train out of Sydney, stopping off at Albury where they played a match before continuing on their way.

From those humble beginnings football in the premier state has continued to grow and it now has more registered players than all other football codes combined.

And in Parramatta senior football is represented by Premier League side Parramatta Eagles and NSL club, Parramatta Power.

Other clubs like Parramatta City compete in senior Federation leagues wile there is a thriving infrastructure at junior level.

SuperSoccer FOCUS ON

FOOTBALL IN PARRAMATTA

NSW STATE REFEREES DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
(part-time position)

Applications are invited for the part-time term position of NSW State Referees Development Officer

The appointment will be for two years from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2002.

The responsibilities of the position include gathering and compiling data on recruitment and training procedures, analysing the effectiveness of the arrangements, preparing a report and recommendations on a strategic direction for the future development of referees within New South Wales for the NSW Referees Commission, and preparing information on referee courses. Travel throughout New South Wales is required, as well as some weekend work.

The successful applicant will have first-class communication and report writing skills and a capacity for consultation and analysis.

Please note that this position is classified as a child-related position and the successful applicant will be subject to the *Working with Children Check*. Persons prohibited from working with children under this legislation need not apply.

Applications should be forwarded by 14 December 2000 to:

The Secretary
NSW Referees Commission
PO Box 6146
BAULKHAM HILLS BC NSW 2153

Further information can be obtained from Ron Beaumont on telephone 02 9629 1800.

www.soccer.nsw.com.au

Power tracked new signing in SuperSoccer

By Bruce Campbell

BLACKTOWN City coach Brian Brown wished his namesake star player best luck on his transfer to NSL Parramatta Power—and then took a gentle dig at NSL clubs.

"I'm delighted for him," said the coach of Damian Brown, transferred late last week to Power

"He deserves his chance, he has just worked so hard.

"Right now he is playing exceptionally well.

"But you have to ask yourself about other NSL clubs who never look at Premier League players

"There is a lot of talent in this league and I think that many of the players could play up a level. But the NSL clubs don't watch them.

"There are two exceptions to that, Parramatta's Lawrie McKinna and Tommy Sermanni at Canberra Cosmos

"The others don't seem to care."

Damian Brown had been on trial earlier this season but Power had overlooked the talented left sider.

With previous experience at Newcastle Breakers and Canberra Cosmos most people considered him unlucky not to be signed by the Parramatta club

But the NSL club kept tabs on the player and after reading glowing reports of him in *SuperSoccer* swooped after the match against Sutherland Sharks to add him to their roster

Power rushed Brown into their side for the home match against Sydney United, making it a whirlwind week for a player who started it off on Saturday by destroying the Sharks in the Premier League — and ended it on Friday with a welcome return to the NSL.

"I knew we had made a mistake in not signing Damian when I read the reports in *SuperSoccer*," said McKinna.

"I was tracking the player and the paper helped me to keep tabs on him.

"But we were really needing someone on the left and Mitch (head coach Davie Mitchell) agreed, so he made a move for Brown."

Hills United surge ahead into First Divsion

By Louis Faydherbe

HILLS United Soccer Club, proudly sponsored by Pioneer Australia and Umbro, finished a great year 2000 season with all their State League teams making the finals

All Hills United State League teams made their way to the Rockdale Ilinden Sports Centre on Saturday, 13th August for the preliminary finals which saw the U/18s go down in a 2-1 loss against Hurstville ZSC and the U/21s being defeated by Mt. Druitt Town, also a 2-1 loss.

Hills 1st Grade side, however, were victorious with a 2-1 win against Greystanes which sent them onto the Grand Final at Melita Stadium on Saturday, 19th August.

Their opponents, Hurstville ZSC, had played consistently well all year and both teams were fired up for the Grand Final showdown

Both teams received a rowdy welcome onto Melita's field and in the first half Hills showed their dominance and strength to go into the sheds at half time with a nil-nil scoreline.

Hurstville, however, did a turn-around and came back onto the field firing with three goals to finish up the Grand Final with a 3-0.

Hills United were extremely proud to have Damon Thompson named Second Division Player of the Year.

The New South Wales Soccer Federation held the Gold Medal presentation at Star City Ballroom where 600 players, coaches and supporters gathered for the event.

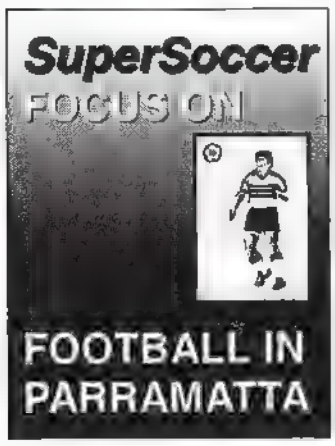
Due to the success of the Hills United State League teams, they have now been promoted to the First Division and go into the 2001 season full of expectation for a momentous competition next year.

In Youth League and Cadet League, Hills finished the year in sixth position and fifth position respectively

It was rather a very good year for the juniors of the club and from the recent signings, Hills United is looking forward to 2001.

The State League coaches for 2001 are Ken Johnstone, Brian Tait and Steve Heron.

Players interested in Cadet League, Youth League and State League should contact Louis Fayd'herbe on 0402 077 073. Hills United play at Fred Caterson Reserve located in the Hills District, Gilbert Road, Castle Hill



Brown goal brought first national honour

BY JOHN WHITE

Parramatta Eagles were formed in 1956 on the amalgamation of Melita and Melita Eagles, both Maltese backed clubs.

In 1957 the newly formed Melita Eagles United SFC joined the-then breakaway NSW Federation.

The Melita SC had been formed in 1953 but an even older Maltese-backed club, Melita Wanderers, had been founded as early as 1928

In 1967 they were promoted to the NSW First Division after league reconstruction had seen the elite level competition expanded to 12 teams.

Melita had finished third in the second division the previous season behind Polonia and Canterbury.

The '70s saw them back into the second division and by 1976, the year before the birth of the National Soccer League, Eagles had finished rock bottom.

The NSL brought a new look to the State League competitions, with many new clubs taking up the opportunity caused when the likes of Hakoah, St George, Apia and Sydney Olympic (Pan Hellenic had already folded) became members of the NSL.

In 1978 they were again promoted to the First Division and that year finished third.

In 1980 Melita won their first State League premiership and over the next decade were one of the mainstays of State League football in NSW. Their premiership victory in 1983 saw a one-season elevation to the NSL.

In season 1990/91 a Greg Brown (pictured) goal secured the club its first national honour, the NSL Cup, beating Preston 1-0 at Marconi Stadium.

That win was under Raul Blanco and new coach Rale Rasic took them to a further two finals appearances, a 2-1 loss to Heidelberg in 92/93 and a 2-0 win over Sydney United in 93/94.

HONOURS

National Cup Winners:
1991, 94
National Cup Runners-Up:
1993
NSW Champions:
1985, 88, 89, 96, 97
NSW Premiers:
1980, 83, 86, 89, 97

Dumping split football

IT WAS one of those controversial David Hill decisions which caused ripples through the football world which are still evident today

The dumping of Parramatta Eagles from the National Soccer League in 1995 came at a time when they were one of the few clubs who were realistically solvent

"We had our own stadium, we paid our players and we were doing OK," recalls Sam Vella

That the Eagles also had a very good team is something that the former president takes no credit for.

in 1984, in the days of the split conferences

Their position second from the bottom that season earned them relegation back to State League.

Five years later they were back again and this time a mid table spot earned them safety.

The following season they were fifth, their highest ever position

In 1992 former World Cup coach Rale Rasic took over at Everley Road, succeeding Raul Blanco who had become an institution at Parramatta.

Blanco had accepted a full time spot with West Adelaide

FORMER EAGLES COACH RAUL BLANCO

"That was down to the coach," he says

"It is the coach who brings in the players, that is what you bring the coach in to do."

1995 wasn't exactly a red letter year for the Eagles, then.

David Hill, then chairman of Soccer Australia, argued that the league needed a bit of glamour, it needed to embrace a new image and more importantly it needed to shake off its 'ethnic' image

The Eagles had done as much, if not more, than any to integrate itself into a wider community

Football historians to this day argue that Hill's 'ethnic cleansing' of football in this country was draconian.

But equally there are those who will argue that it was something which was long overdue.

The Eagles were definitely not a target club in even the most passionate anti-ethnic follower and their demise brought genuine astonishment from every corner of the game.

They had enjoyed a brief one season spell in the league and in his first year at Hindmarsh shaded the Eagles into sixth place

But Rasic brought the club a great deal of success.

He signed a series of bargain basement buys who turned into major players.

Chi Chi Mendez (who at $850 from Marconi must have been the bargain of the century), Michael Reda, Joe Spiteri and Glenn Gwynne were all to establish themselves at Parramatta Eagles under Rasic.

Parramatta Eagles mounted several campaigns to regain their NSL status after 1995 but none were successful.

The latest included a joint bid plan with Blacktown City and then they became a backer for Parramatta Power when they successfully entered the league two seasons ago.

Today they are one of the foundation clubs of the Premier League and only someone who has no knowledge of the history of Australian football would rule the future as a national league club totally out.

Bruce Campbell

SuperSoccer FOCUS ON FOOTBALL IN PARRAMATTA

1984: Coach Raul Blanco	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Sydney City	28	17	8	3	67	21	42
Sydney Olympic	28	16	8	4	61	27	40
Marconi	28	12	8	8	58	39	32
APIA	28	12	8	8	43	35	32
Blacktown City	28	12	6	10	43	43	30
Sydney United	28	8	11	9	32	38	27
Penrith City	28	8	10	10	29	41	26
N'castle Rosebud	28	11	4	13	35	52	26
Canberra City	28	12	1	15	47	39	25
St George	28	8	9	11	38	41	25
Parramatta Eagles	28	8	8	12	23	38	24
Wollongong City	28	5	5	18	22	59	15

1989/90: Coach Raul Blanco	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Marconi	26	16	6	4	51	24	38
Sth Melbourne	26	15	6	5	42	23	36
Melb Knights	26	14	7	5	49	26	35
Adelaide City	26	13	8	5	39	23	34
Sydney Olympic	26	12	7	7	40	25	31
APIA	26	11	9	6	36	25	31
Sydney United	26	10	6	10	40	39	26
Parramatta Eagles	26	10	6	10	31	31	26
Preston	26	9	5	12	33	35	23
St George	26	7	7	12	35	44	21
Wollongong City	26	8	4	14	30	48	20
Sunshine GC	26	6	5	15	24	49	17
West Adelaide	26	5	4	17	21	54	14
Blacktown City	26	4	4	18	30	55	12

1990/91: Coach Raul Blanco	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Melb Knights	26	15	7	4	55	39	37
Sth Melbourne	26	14	6	6	45	33	34
Adelaide City	26	12	9	5	40	24	33
Marconi	26	14	3	9	48	33	31
Parramatta Eagles	26	10	9	7	38	31	29
Sydney Olympic	26	8	13	5	31	25	29
Sydney United	26	8	10	8	27	33	26
Preston	26	8	9	9	26	27	25
Wollongong City	26	8	8	10	32	34	24
St George	26	6	10	10	34	41	22
APIA	26	7	7	12	27	28	21
Heidelberg Utd	26	6	9	11	26	37	21
Sunshine GC	26	7	3	16	39	53	17
Wollongong Utd	26	3	9	14	23	53	15

1991/92: Coach Raul Blanco	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Melb Knights	26	14	7	5	45	26	35
Sydney Olympic	26	12	10	4	38	27	34
Sth Melbourne	26	13	5	8	51	28	31
Adelaide City	26	10	9	7	26	23	29
Wollongong City	26	9	10	7	24	17	28
Bris Strikers	26	8	10	8	31	35	26
Marconi	26	10	5	11	33	31	25
APIA	26	7	11	8	26	28	25
Heidelberg Utd	26	8	8	10	28	33	24
Parramatta Eagles	26	6	11	9	24	24	23
N'stle Breakers	26	7	8	11	28	39	22
Sydney United	26	6	9	11	22	33	21
West Adelaide	26	7	7	12	25	46	21
Preston	26	5	10	11	21	32	20

1992/93: Coach Rale Rasic	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Sth Melbourne	26	18	4	4	51	23	58
Marconi	26	17	2	7	57	31	53
Adelaide City	26	12	5	9	37	34	41
Wollongong City	26	11	6	9	33	27	39
West Adelaide	26	12	3	11	43	39	39
Parramatta Eagles	26	11	6	9	39	41	39
Sydney United	26	12	3	11	36	41	39
N'cstle Breakers	26	10	8	8	38	29	38
Sydney Olympic	26	10	4	12	36	31	34
Melb Knights	26	10	4	12	38	39	34
Heidelberg Utd	26	7	9	10	30	40	30
Morwell Falcons	26	7	7	12	29	43	28
Preston	26	6	4	16	28	45	18
Brisbane Strkrs	26	5	3	18	32	64	18

1993/94: Coach Rale Rasic	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Melb Knights	26	16	5	5	59	24	53
Sth Melbourne	26	13	8	5	39	20	47
Sydney United	26	13	7	6	31	29	46
Marconi Fairfield	26	11	9	6	52	33	42
Adelaide City	26	11	8	7	48	27	41
Sydney Olympic	26	11	8	7	40	37	41
Morwell Falcons	26	11	7	8	31	30	40
Brisbane Strkrs	26	10	6	10	28	25	36
West Adelaide	26	10	5	11	41	34	35
Parramatta Eagles	26	8	9	9	27	29	33
Wollongong City	26	6	9	11	27	29	33
Newcastle Brkrs	26	5	8	13	30	47	23
Melb Zebras	26	5	4	17	22	57	19
Heidelberg Utd	26	3	5	18	19	67	14

1994/95: Coach Rale Rasic	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melb Knights	24	16	4	4	56	25	70
Adelaide City	24	16	4	4	41	20	69
Sydney United	24	15	5	4	34	19	68
Morwell Falcons	24	8	11	5	41	37	47
West Adelaide	24	8	8	8	28	32	45
Sth Melbourne	24	9	5	10	42	36	44
Brisbane Strk	24	8	6	10	34	32	41
Wollongong City	24	8	4	12	39	46	38
Sydney Olympic	24	8	4	12	27	34	37
Marconi Fairfield	24	6	7	11	34	43	35
Melb Zebras	24	6	6	12	20	37	34
Parramatta Eagles	24	7	3	14	25	34	33
Heidelberg Utd	24	6	3	15	27	53	28

SuperSoccer VACANCIES

Do you have an interest in developing your writing or photography skills, are you an experienced writer looking for a new outlet, do you have a passion for the round ball game, would you like to join *SuperSoccer's* team?

SuperSoccer is currently expanding its team and has several vacancies. Previous applicant may re-apply.

1. STAFF WRITER (Full time or part time)
Position: Copy Writer/Journalist
Starting: January 2001
Duties: attending matches, compiling interviews, preparing copy, assisting in pagination and layout.
Remuneration: this is a contract position and remuneration will be negotiated around industry award standard.
Required: extensive computer knowledge, excellent writing skills, ability to work to a deadline with little supervision. This is a Wollongong-based position and interested applicants are invited to submit written applications based on a full or part time position as appropriate. Note that Sundays are a full production day and that attendance at Sydney-based NSL/Federation matches is also part of the job description.

2. PHOTOGRAPHERS (New South Wales/ACT only)
Permanent vacancies for experienced football photographers to cover the game at all levels
Positions are freelance.

3. PREMIER LEAGUE WRITER
Starting: immediately
Area of coverage: Weekly column and regular weekly interview pieces on Premier League players and clubs.
Required: knowledge of Premier League football. Previous football writing necessary. Published portfolio necessary.
This is a contributor level paid position.

4. SUPER LEAGUE WRITER
Starting: January 2001
Area of coverage: Weekly column and regular weekly interview pieces on Super League players and clubs.
Required: knowledge of Super League football. Some previous football writing necessary. Published portfolio desirable.
This is a contributor level paid position.

5. FIRST DIVISION LEAGUE WRITER
Starting January 2001
Area of coverage: Weekly column and weekly match roundup, plus one weekly 'colour' piece.
Required: knowledge of First Division football. Some previous football writing necessary.
This is a contributor level paid position.

6. YOUTH LEAGUE WRITER (Sydney)
Starting March 2001
Area of coverage: Weekly column and weekly match roundup of Cadet/Super Youth League, plus one weekly 'colour' piece.
Required: knowledge of football. Some previous football writing advantageous.
This is a contributor level paid position

7. AMATEUR LEAGUE WRITER (Sydney)
Starting February 2001
Area of coverage: Weekly 'colour' piece on amateur and district level football
Required: knowledge of football
This is a non-paid position and several vacancies exist.

8. FOOTBALL CONTRIBUTORS
(Canberra, Illawarra, Central Coast, Riverina, Central West, Sydney metropolitan, Greater Sydney)
We are looking for up and coming writers to increase our coverage of Federation/Regional League football at Premier, Super and State League levels as well as regional and country areas—at both senior and junior league level.
Player profiles, interviews and features will add to our coverage as *SuperSoccer* broadens its reporting of the game in New South Wales and the ACT.
This could be that opportunity that you have been looking for to break into the tough and competitive world of sports writing.
You should be reliable, well spoken, have a good grasp of English grammar and sentence construction and be prepared to write to a deadline. You must also be 18 years or older and have a good background knowledge of football.
These are non-paid positions and several vacancies exist.
Note that they could well lead to paid, part time or full time positions.

Positions 3-7 require work to be submitted via email and to a strict deadline. Applications, in writing, should be made by
Friday 15th December.

Please address enquiries to
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RECORD BUSTER

SuperSoccer focus on FOOTBALL IN PARRAMATTA

PARRAMATTA Power captain Alex Tobin is now just two games away from breaking the all-time NSL appearances record.

Barring injury or suspension the former Adelaide City stopper will break the record when the Power play Eastern Pride on December 16 in Bathurst.

SuperSoccer
FOCUS ON
FOOTBALL
IN PARRAMATTA

A RED LETTER DAY for Parramatta Eagles with the official opening of the new grandstand by the Prime Minister of Malta. The Eagles have been one of the dominant clubs in State League football for the last two decades and have also enjoyed a spell of success in the National Soccer League, winning two National Cups and appearing in one other final.

Power pitch starting to knit

THE pitch at Parramatta Stadium has come in for a lot of media attention

In the opening rounds of the current NSL season it was bumpy and had large patches of bare ground, covered in patches by sand.

Aware of the criticisms directed at their surface the Parramatta Stadium ground staff have worked hard to restore the pitch to a better condition.

"The problem with it was that the pitch was retorted but then had three week of junior rugby league grand finals on it," says Power assistant coach Lawrie McKinna.

"Before we went on tour to Vietnam it was needing to be redone but the trucks carrying the grass turf strips broke down

"The grass then lay in the trucks and in patches died.

"But the recent rain will have done a lot to knit the grass together and it is definitely on the improve.

"It has been hard for the team to play on it because you just can't play middle of the park pretty stuff.

"Instead you've got to whack the long ball."

Kimon and Pablo emerge as targets

MUCH traveled NSL veteran Kimon Tahadoros (pictured) has been training with Parramatta Power in recent weeks as the club looks to add to its player pool.

Club officials confirmed that the striker has been at their training ground and reports indicate that the former South Melbourne, Marconi and Sydney Olympic player is looking sharp.

However, Power have also firmed up their interest in Pablo Cardozo, the former Sydney Olympic player who is considering a return to Australia after failing to secure a long term contract in Greece.

To offset new signings it could be that Joel Griffiths is on his way out of the club.

Press reports from Melbourne indicate that he is a target for South Melbourne and it is no secret that Power coach Dave Mitchell is unimpressed with Griffith's reported lack of attitude

FOCUS ON FOOTBALL
is a 20-part look at the past and present of football in the premier state.

NEXT WEEK
the focus is on
FOOTBALL IN FAIRFIELD

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SuperSoccer speaks to

Joe Miller Parramatta Power

SuperSoccer FOCUS ON FOOTBALL IN PARRAMATTA

PARRAMATTA POWER S.C.

When David Mitchell, the Parramatta Power coach, lost the services of Steve Laybutt, Jacob Burns and Mile Sterjovski for the current N.S.L. campaign, he was forced to recruit locally to fill the void.
However, his biggest coup was the signing of former Celtic, Aberdeen and Dundee United star Joe Miller.
The man who was discovered as a 13-year-old youth player by Sir Alex Ferguson may be just the tonic required to lift Parramatta up the table after its disappointing 11th place in 1999/2000
Miller is following in the tradition of the great Celtic players, Willie Wallace and Davie Provan who graced our playing fields during the '70s and '80s.
Significantly, Miller is determined to assist Parramatta in becoming a major force in Australian football this season .
In this interview Joe Miller relates his experiences in Scottish football, his early impressions of the Australian game and life at Parramatta Power .

SuperSoccer:
What was the background to your career in professional football and can you describe the spirit of Scottish football?
Joe Miller
My father played professionally with Hamilton Academicals and Swindon Town in the 1950s and always wanted me to follow in his footsteps.

When you're brought up in the east end of Glasgow near Celtic Park, it's every boy's childhood dream to wear the green and white of the Bhoys.

Fortunately, my father's faith in my ability was vindicated when I was spotted playing boy's club football at the age of ten and earmarked as a player of the future.

The spirit of Scottish football is with you from the time you're born.

You're brought up to support your team and the rivalry between Celtic and Rangers supporters particularly is something you can only understand if you're born in Glasgow

I'll never forget after scoring in a Cup final ,the deafening roar of the Celtic supporters in the crowd of 80,000

It was like a truck going through your body and boosted the adrenalin to new highs.

SuperSoccer:
Who were your role models and who were the people who influenced your career most?
Joe Miller:
As a Celtic supporter you worshipped the whole team but I have to say Jimmy Johnstone, the legendary right winger, played a large part in my development.

When I was fifteen, and playing for Celtic Boys Club, Jimmy coached me in the art of wing play

His skill was awesome and his dedication something else.

When he played in training matches you couldn't get the ball off him.

Obviously, Alex Ferguson had a profound influence on my life when he first spotted me playing youth football and subsequently signed me for Aberdeen on full professional forms at the age of sixteen.

SuperSoccer:
As a fanatical Celtic supporter since birth, why did you decide to sign with Aberdeen at the start of your professional career?
Joe Miller
Originally, I'd signed for Aberdeen on schoolboy forms at the age of thirteen.

Celtic tried to convince my father to bypass Aberdeen but it was a strong squad at Pittodrie in 1984 and having Alex Ferguson there was a strong motivation.

It was players like Alex McLeish, Jim Leighton, Willie Miller, Stuart McKimmie and Paul McGhee, who accounted for the club's success in Europe and at home under Ferguson.

Gordon Strachan had just left the club to move to Manchester United at the time I signed

SuperSoccer:
In November, 1987 you finally signed with Celtic despite the attentions of Alex Ferguson at Manchester United and interest from Liverpool and Arsenal

Do you have any regrets about this decision at such an important time in your career?
Joe Miller:
Celtic came in with a record offer for a young player of £750,000 so the opportunity to move to Parkhead was hard to refuse

In hindsight if I'd gone to United, who knows what I may have achieved ?

Nevertheless, I had six great seasons with Celtic winning many honours on the way.

People can only dream what I experienced in professional football at Celtic playing with the likes of Roy Aitken, Paddy Bonner, Anton Rogan, Chris Morris, Paul McStay, Mick McCarthy, Tommy Burns and Frank McAvennie and playing under managers with the credentials of Billy McNeil and Liam Brady.

SuperSoccer:
Despite playing many times for Scotland at schoolboy and youth level, you were never selected in a full international.

Can you explain this?
Joe Miller:
I was selected in the national squad between 1987 and 1989 under Andy Roxburgh but never made an appearance.

After this I was never considered for selection by Craig Brown despite scoring regularly and performing consistently for Celtic and Aberdeen.

Perhaps you should get Brown's opinion on the matter but it's no secret we didn't share the same ideas about football

SuperSoccer:
What was the real story behind your decision to play in Australia?
Joe Miller:
After finishing the 19998/99 season with Dundee United, I had an opportunity to play in Major League Soccer with Kansas City Wizards.

Unfortunately, the deal fell through due to the quota system on foreign players so I returned in February, 2000 to train with Kilmarnock and Dundee United with the view to playing this season in Scotland.

At the same time a close friend of mine in Sydney, Matt Sawers, approached a number of N.S.L. clubs on my behalf.

Dave Mitchell made contact and asked me to come here to look at the set-up at Parramatta

I'd played against Mitch in my first stint for Aberdeen in 1986 in the UEFA Cup when he was at Feyenoord.

Remarkably, Mitch scored in the first leg in Holland and I scored in the return leg at Pittodrie.

I arrived here at the end of July and it didn't take me long to realise what this club had achieved in such a short time.

The club was all about professionalism, from the coaching staff right through to the administration and board and I had no hesitation in signing a one year contract.

SuperSoccer:
What are your initial impressions of Australian football?
Joe Miller:
There's obviously a huge pool of young talent which is crying out for coaching.

The game certainly needs expertise from overseas to bring the young players along and to teach the local coaches about the tactics, pace and discipline required in the modern game.

The local players are certainly willing to learn and it's great being involved with helping players like Ahmed Elrich who really has a great future in the game.

The game is certainly not over promoted and when you come from a country where you've played in front of 60,000 crowds regularly, it takes time to adjust to the lack of atmosphere.

It was a great shame Australia didn't perform better in the Olympics because I'm sure success would've created much greater interest in the NSL this season

On a personal note, I've had a tremendous reception from the Celtic supporters' clubs and I've even been invited to Melbourne to attend one of their functions.

SuperSoccer:
Your role has been instrumental in Parramatta playing a different style of football compared to last season

Also those pinpoint crosses have given the side a new attacking dimension.

Has Dave Mitchell allowed you a free reign to play this individual role which was particularly evident in the Brisbane match?
Joe Miller:
Mitchell has encouraged me to play a creative role which was lacking in the squad last season.

By switching round the park and not playing in a static role I'm trying to create as many attacking opportunities as possible

Also, with the addition of Alex Tobin and Dave Lee, there's more stability in the defence and people are also playing more to their positions and within the team system, something that was lacking last season according to Mitchell.

SuperSoccer:
Can Parramatta climb the NSL ladder this season and be a real force?
Joe Miller:
What we need is a run of wins to give the squad confidence.

When I joined Celtic at the end of 1987 I was part of a twenty eight game unbeaten run which inspired amazing confidence at the club.

Let's hope that Dave Mitchell and Lawrie McKinna can sow the seeds to emulate this type of success at Parramatta this season.

Interview by Roger Sleeman for Parramatta Power Soccer Club.

JOE MILLER' S RECORD

D.O.B 6/12/67
CLUBS: Aberdeen ,Celtic , Dundee United
TOTAL APPEARANCES: 495/85 goals
HONOURS:
1 Scottish League Championship
3 Scottish F.A. Cup Medals
1 Scottish League Cup Medal
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:
U16, U18, U21 Scottish Caps
Scotland Senior Squad member 1987-89
MANAGERS:
Alex Ferguson, Aberdeen 1984-87
Billy McNeill, Liam Brady, Celtic 1987-93
Willie Miller, Roy Aitken, Aberdeen 1993-98
Tommy McLean, Paul Sturrock, Dundee Utd. 1998-99

A SuperSoccer JUNIOR SOCCER INTERNATIONAL FEATURE

Kantenwein Fussball Schule

By Warwick O'Brien

WE decided to take our 13-year-old son Stephen to train at the Kantenwein Fussball Schule after contact with their Australian agent Martin Reusch.

Investigations indicated the credibility of the organization was high.

The chance to train, for a period, under conditions experienced by full time professional soccer players was too good to miss.

The moment we walked out of customs at Stuttgart we knew this was going to be a good experience.

There was Jurgen Kantenwein (owner and head coach) with one of his full time coaches, Stefan Hohnstein, waiting, all smiles, at 9 30pm to greet us and smooth our way through car rental and finding our apartment.

Their excellent English was a relief as my German is limited to schoolyard swear words and pigeon from TV's *Hogan's Heroes*.

I was not disappointed as the following three weeks unfolded.

Jurgen is a well respected coach with "A" level qualification from the Deutsch Fussball Bund (WFV-DFB) and has a Masters Degree in Physical Education.

He coaches regional representative teams as well as conducting seminars for coaches.

Before any training commenced Stephen was subjected to a comprehensive fitness and physical assessment.

The tester actually found a small problem with back musculature.

I knew this was genuine because Stephen had previously been diagnosed with slight scoliosis (curvature) of the spine in Australia. Fortunately they agreed it was non inhibiting to physical activity.

Then it was off to training for the first day.

There are six full time coaches on staff and two of them are at our NSL standard whilst the other four vary from Super League to just under that level.

The quality of coaching was impressive.

Full time students are integrated with several different groups of players, selected for their potential, in differing locales which are spread within an hours drive around Stuttgart.

The main base and accommodation is situated at Pforzheim about 40km north west of Stuttgart.

Every facility we visited was excellent with a clubhouse and superb playing surface.

Some places had artificial grass fields in addition to natural grass as a wet weather back up.

Soccer is almost a religion in Germany.

The players are rotated through up to five drills during 2½ hour sessions which leave unfit players gasping.

Types of drills include all aspects of the modern game.

Speed work is employed and we saw a very pleasing improvement in Stephen over the 3 weeks.

Ball work incorporating speed, shooting, passing, overlaps, dummies, centering and special small sided games (no goals) are all part of the curriculum.

Working on perceived weaknesses is employed, thus endeavouring to make the player utilise more variety in their application to the game.

At different times of the year trainees are integrated with existing teams for full sided games.

The intensity of training with drills designed to negate boredom but enhance quality through repetition is particularly good.

The coach will often stop a drill and hold a brief group talk to iron out faults before returning to the drill.

This is most successful as demonstrated on many occasions.

I was pleased to observe some new drills which will be of benefit in Australia.

There is a program for specialised goalkeeping which is also very intense and I have not previously seen some of the drills that were used.

The field players are sometimes utilised with the goalkeepers to improve shooting.

Game observation is also part of the program with the coach pointing out various aspects as the game progresses.

Our first experience of this was at the Bayern Munich v Hansa Rostock game at the Munich Olympic Stadium.

Can you imagine the privilege to use such a game for education.

The atmosphere with 60,000 fans chanting, singing, drumming etc., was electric.

Other games we observed included 4th division (a little below our Super League standard), Youth League and under 14 Regional Representative (similar to our Super Youth League).

On some days gymnasium work forms one of the daily sessions as does good old fashioned running of 10 km in the evening and running up high flights of stairs.

Fitness is one of their important criteria and these sessions also assisted the onset of sleep at night.

Anyone contemplating going to Germany for this program should make sure they are as fit as possible to gain maximum benefit.

The gymnasium sessions last approximately 1½ hours with specific exercises designed for the player based on age, physical condition etc.

For Stephen as he was reasonably fit and, although quite big for his age still only 13 years old, the work consisted mostly of light weight repetitive movements.

There were some with heavier weights for leg work due to his advanced development in that area.

Any weight work with the arms is of the pulling type rather than lifting and concentrates on specific muscle groups each time.

I also witnessed the specialised gym work for goalkeepers and was very impressed.

An essential for participants is to have a strong passion for the game and thus the willingness to go that extra bit.

All full time trainees live in an apartment with four other players and a coach.

Home cooked meals are provided, clothes washing is done and overall hospitality is excellent. The school provides two, nine seater buses for transport to and from venues.

All players are provided with a mobile phone.

Any players 16 years or more need to arrange special times to attend so they can be integrated into representative team training.

Juniors can attend anytime of the year but November to mid February is to be avoided as their winter is prohibitive to outdoor training.

Senior players endeavouring to break into European soccer can attend, by arrangement, and have an assessment done after which, if appropriate, trials with various clubs will be arranged.

Overall I found the trip to be very worthwhile and in retrospect would do it again.

Stephen's comment at the end of the program was: " It was MAD. The training was very hard but I liked it because it pushed me to my limits. All the people were very friendly and loved soccer.

"I learned some new moves and I feel I improved in all areas of my game. It was great to just live soccer for three weeks full time. The accommodation in a five bed apartment was great. The coaches were really terrific."

Footnote: Stephen has signed to play with the Penrith Panthers under 14 Super Youth League team in 2001.

28 PAGES ON AUSTRALIAN SOCCER
SuperSoccer:
PUBLISHING MORE ON OUR GAME THAN ANY PUBLICATION IN AUSTRALIA,
DAILY OR WEEKLY

A *SuperSoccer* JUNIOR SOCCER INTERNATIONAL FEATURE

Joeys campaign start delayed

AUSTRALIA had its start to the Oceania Qualifiers for the FIFA Under-17 World Championship delayed following a re-scheduling of the draw in Samoa on Friday

The LG Joeys were due to kick off their campaign on Saturday however the addition of lights to the playing fields, which has enabled later kick-offs, combined with the withdrawal of New Caledonia, now sees Australia's opening game against American Samoa moved back to Tuesday (Samoan time) as *SuperSoccer* went to press

Australia's full draw at the Oceania Confederation Qualifiers is (Samoan local time first):

Tuesday 5th December
versus American Samoa
Kick-off: 7.00pm
(5 00pm Wed AEST)

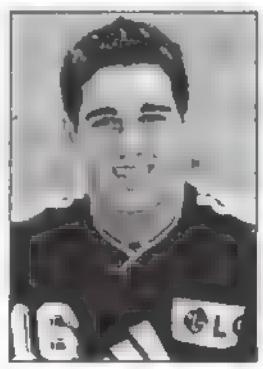
Thursday 7th December
versus Papua New Guinea
Kick-off: 5.00pm
(3 00pm Fri AEST)

Saturday 9th December
versus Solomon Islands
Kick-off: 5.00pm
(3.00pm Sun AEST)

Monday 11th December
Versus Samoa
Kick-off: 7.00pm
(5.00pm Tues AEST)

And Carl Valeri (pictured below) has been named captain of the LG Joeys for this campaign.

The 16-year-old midfielder, who plays his club football with the AIS, will be seconded by fellow 16-year-old defender Alex Wilkinson, from Northern Spirit.



THE SQUAD:
COE Nathan Goalkeeper QAS REX Jacob Goalkeeper Northern Spirit NSW BOJIC Predrag Defender Parramatta Power NSW MADIGAN Rodney Defender Marconi Colts NSW STUDMAN Brett Defender Sydney Olympic NSW WILKINSON Alex Defender Northern Spirit NSW AGIUS Frederick Midfielder SASI South Australia BAVEAS Steven Midfielder NSWIS NSW BROWN Michael Midfielder Parramatta Power NSW DANZE Anthony Midfielder Perth Glory Western Australia KARLOVIC Mario Midfielder Adelaide City South Australia MURDOCCA Massimo Midfielder South Melbourne Victoria STEVENS Ben Midfielder QAS Queensland VALERI Carl Midfielder AIS ACT WALLER Russell Midfielder SASI South Australia ENGELE Matthew Striker Northern Spirit NSW HOLMAN Brett Striker Parramatta Power NSW LUCAS Jay Striker Wollongong Wolves NSW SMITH Terry Striker AIS South Australia WALSH Sean Striker QAS Queensland

Uniting the Youth of the World through Football

THE Kanga Cup was first held in 1991 in Sydney, later moving to Canberra where it is currently staged.

The superb playing facilities of the national capital and the wide variety of accommodation on offer make Canberra a good choice for an international tournament which is sanctioned by Soccer Canberra, Soccer Australia and FIFA

Under the them of "Uniting the Youth of the World through Football" the competition, offering games at different ages for boys and girls, has continued to expand and after having passed the magical 100 mark, last year surpassed that with over 150 teams participating.

A new mark of 200 teams seems to be achievable, a major realisation of the confidence expressed when the Kanga Cup was first launched ten years ago.

The 2000 Kanga Cup saw over teams from USA, England, Georgia, Fiji, New Zealand, Denmark, South Africa, Russia and throughout Australia in a week long feast of junior football

The Kanga Cup, to be held in Canberra from 8–15 July 2001 next year, is now firmly established as Australia's number one youth tournament and has its own place on the international calendar.

SuperSoccer will cover the Kanga Cup in extensive detail next year as our focus continues to develop on the junior game.

2001 Kanga Cup

International Youth Soccer Tournament Canberra Australia July 8 - July 15

The 11th year of Australia's greatest International Youth Soccer Tournament kicks off in Canberra on the 8th of July.
The tournament lasts for a week and caters for boys and girls from under 11 to the under 24 age group.
Already teams have confirmed participation as the reputation of the tournament continues to gain worldwide recognition.

For further Information contact
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Curtin ACT 2605, Australia
or by fax to 02 6260 4999.
Ph 02 6260 4000.
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JUNIOR SOCCER INTERNATIONAL

is featured in *SuperSoccer* on the first week of every month and takes a look at coaching, clinics, football schools and tournaments in Australia and overseas.

If you want to be featured in this series contact KIEREN BLAKE at *SuperSoccer* 4285 7480 Monday-Friday 9am-4pm or on 0400 126 060.

NEXT WEEK: Football High Tech—an ongoing once a month look at the technology of internet, computers and games relative to football.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER NSW PREMIER LEAGUE

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Blacktown City	5	5	0	0	11	2	15
2	Belconnen	5	3	0	2	11	6	9
3	Bonnyrigg	3	2	0	1	9	4	6
4	Canterbury Marrick	3	2	0	1	3	2	6
5	St George	3	2	0	1	5	5	6
6	Central Coast	5	2	0	3	5	6	6
7	Parramatta	3	1	1	1	3	5	4
8	Leichhardt	3	1	0	2	3	5	3
9	Sutherland	5	0	2	3	5	11	2
10	Penrith	5	0	1	4	5	14	1

NSW PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 3
Penrith 3 Sutherland 3
NSW PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 5
Canterbury Marrickville v Leichhardt PP
Penrith 0 Blacktown City 1
Bonnyrigg v Parramatta PP
Central Coast 2 Belconnen 1
St George 2 Sutherland 1

LEADING SCORERS
Steve Lazzari Belconnen 7
Darren Iocca Blacktown City 6
George Cattanach Belconnen 2
Zlatko Donev Blacktown City 2
Vadim Mikoutski Blacktown City 2
Robbie Gomez Bonnyrigg 2

PREMIER LEAGUE (Youth Grade)

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Leichhardt	4	4	0	0	13	2	12
2	Blacktown City	5	3	1	1	13	9	10
3	Belconnen	5	3	0	2	11	10	9
4	Central Coast	5	3	0	2	9	10	9
5	Parramatta	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
6	Sutherland	5	1	2	2	8	9	5
7	Canterbury	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
8	Bonnyrigg	3	1	0	2	2	5	3
9	Penrith	5	0	2	3	6	10	2
10	St George	4	0	0	4	3	11	0

Michael Hawrysiuk Bonnyrigg 2
Colin Luff Bonnyrigg 2
David Reid Bonnyrigg 2
Adam Peatey Central Coast 2
Angelo Petratos St George 2

NSW PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE ROUND 3
Penrith 2 Sutherland 2
NSW PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE ROUND 5
Canterbury Marrickville v Leichhardt PP
Penrith 2 Blacktown City 4
Bonnyrigg v Parramatta PP
Central Coast 3 Belconnen 2
St George 1 Sutherland 4

NYL (Northern Div)

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	A.I.S.	8	7	0	1	13	7	21
2	Northern Spirit	7	6	0	1	19	5	18
3	Marconi Youth	6	4	1	1	8	2	13
4	Parramatta Power	6	4	1	1	8	2	13
5	Sydney United	6	4	0	2	12	7	13
6	Wollongong	5	3	2	0	12	3	11
7	Marconi Colts	6	3	0	3	16	7	9
8	N.S.W.I.S.	6	2	2	1	5	5	8
9	Sydney Olympic	5	2	1	2	10	9	7
10	Q.A.S.	9	2	1	6	15	25	7
11	Canberra Cosmos	6	1	2	3	10	12	5
12	Newcastle Youth	6	1	1	4	7	4	13
13	Newcastle Colts	4	1	0	3	1	10	3
14	ACT Academy	7	1	0	6	3	23	3
15	Olympic Academy	7	0	1	6	7	17	1

NSW Premier League

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1.	Sydney Olympic	8	5	2	1	14	5	17
2.	Wollongong	8	5	2	1	15	9	17
3.	South Melbourne	8	4	3	1	16	7	15
4.	Perth	8	4	2	2	14	9	14
5.	Carlton	8	3	4	1	13	9	13
6.	Northern Spirit	8	3	3	2	12	8	12
7.	Marconi	8	3	3	2	11	8	12
8.	Melbourne Knights	8	4	0	4	12	13	12
9.	Sydney United	8	3	2	3	11	16	11
10.	Canberra	8	3	1	4	14	14	10
11.	Parramatta	8	3	1	4	12	13	10
12.	Adelaide	8	3	1	4	10	16	10
13.	Brisbane	8	2	2	4	10	14	8
14.	Kingz	8	2	1	5	11	17	7
15.	Newcastle United	8	1	3	4	6	15	6
16.	Eastern Pride	8	0	2	6	9	17	2

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE ROUND 8
Parramatta 3 Sydney United 2
Newcastle 1 Wollongong 3
Canberra 1 South Melbourne 3
Perth 2 Adelaide 0
Brisbane 2 Sydney Olympic 1
Marconi 3 Kingz 1
Melbourne Knights 2 Eastern Pride 1
Carlton 1 Northern Spirit 1

ASICS NSL BIG MATCH REPORT

Tartan magic tames United's Bravehearts

By Bryan Cokely

PARRAMATTA POWER 3
SYDNEY UNITED 2

TWO magical moments from Scottish import Joe Miller proved the difference for Parramatta Power as they defeated local rivals Sydney United 3 - 2 in a game of contrasting halves.

Twice Miller was allowed too much space in the box by former Power captain Richard Plesa and duly crafted two of the coolest finishes seen in the N S L. for some time.

Earlier Power coach David Mitchell had made two changes from the team that gained a point away to South Melbourne while sticking to the same 3-5-1-1 formation.

The attacking Miller in for Peter Bennet played an ambiguous role sometimes tracking back on the right of midfield to create a six-man wall smothering the Sydney United midfield in the first half

With debutante Damien Brown giving the long awaited balance to Parramatta,

Milan Blagojevic

Parramatta Power 3 (H Thorp 34' J Miller 41' 44')
Sydney United 2 (C Menapi 62' T Pondeljak 66' pen)
Venue: Parramatta Stadium
Referee. Mark Shield Attendance. 2021
Cautions B Santalab 88'D Kukucka 89' F Awaritefe 90'
Parramatta Power: 1 Andrew Crews (gk) 3 Ahmad Elrich 4 Nick Orlic 5 Alex Tobin 7 8 Walter Ardone (-71) 9 Joe Miller (-66) 11 Steve Berry 12 Damien Brown 13 Milan Blagojevic 21 Hamilton Thorp (-61) 22 Joe Vrkic Substitutes 17 Brendan Santalab (+61')19 Daniel Kukucka (+66') 28 Peter Bennett (+71')24 Liam Reddy (gk)
Sydney United. 1 Brett Hughes (gk) 3 Danny Burt 5 Richard Plesa 7 Ray Younis (- 46') 12 Tom Maric 13 Ante Deur 14 Kain Rastall (-59') 15 Aytek Genc 17 Francis Awaritefe 19 Shane Webb (-77) 21 Terry Palapanis Substitutes 4 Velimir Kupresak (+77)11 Tom Pondeljak (+59) 16 Commins Menapi (+46) 20 Steve Tolios (gk)

tracing a line hugging role down the left, and Ahmed Elrich winning tackles at inside right, the Power for once dominated midfield possession allowing Milan Blagojevic the space to combine cleverly with his team-mates.

But for all that, the first 20 minutes was only notable for a great Joe Vrkic cover tackle on Ante Deur who almost finished a slick Braveheart counter attack.

Then on 23 minutes Elrich won an improbable tackle reversing the play then instantly clipping the ball over a startled defence for Hamilton Thorpe to glance a header wide

From that point, the game became an entertaining and keenly fought contest.

Danny Burt and Hamilton Thorpe had a running battle at one end while Vrkic and Awaritefe fought for dominance at the other.

On 29 minutes Miller, Brown and Blagojevic weaved a mitre tapestry through the middle to allow Blagojevic a fierce low drive, forcing an athletic save by Brett Hughes in the United goal

Shortly after, Damian Brown floated in a cross which caused havoc for the United defence who desperately cleared the danger.

A minute later Blagojevic hit the side netting with a rasping 35m free kick awarded after Burt dragged down Thorpe following a series of tussles that were increasingly being won by the burly Power striker

Thorpe again shrugged off Burt after 37 minutes and opened the scoring when this time the big man's head connected firmly with a Joe Vrkic cross from deep on the right.

By now it was all Power, punctuated only with the odd break out by United.

Inevitably it seemed Power would get another.

They did so with a quick brace from Joe Miller

The wandering Scot picked up the ball on the left corner of the box, squared up Plesa, feinted left nudged the ball right and sweetly curled it into the far corner

Minutes later the dose was repeated when another midfield turnover saw Damien Brown slip a pass forward to Miller just to the right of the D

Miller advanced again, feinted left, let the ball run across him to his right foot to again fool Plesa, and from just inside the penalty area exquisitely chipped Hughes to make it 3-0.

While Power deservedly led, the margin was flattering.

But their second half performance was so lacking in fight and composure that Sydney United scrapped their way back in. The key moments were many and varied.

Thorpe retired shortly after half time with a foot injury and David Mitchell made another of his unravelling substitutions.

Instead of making a straight swap, three positional changes ensued to accommodate Brendon Santalab.

From that point Power again became a loose unit.

On the other hand Alan Hunter brought on Tom Pondeljak down the right to expose Brown's defensive frailties and the enigmatic Solomon Islander Commins Menapi was presented to the Power defence as an elusive live wire and a complimentary partner to Awaritefe, which instantly upset Parramatta

And critically Aytec Genc began to dominate the centre of midfield for Sydney United now that Elrich's tackling was dispatched to wide on the right.

United were soon back in the game when a left foot hook in to the box from Awaritefe had landed invitingly for Menape who duly slotted home on 63 minutes.

United then surged forward and were rewarded with a dubious penalty a few minutes later when Vrkic was adjudged to have pushed Menape in the box.

Tommy Pondeljak neatly scored to induce a pulsating finish to a robust match in which a draw would have been a fair outcome, but for some fine keeping from Andrew Crews in the Power goal.

Alan Hunter can take heart from the fight-back and the prospect of Arambasic and Kupresak fully fit for next week's fixture against Canberra Cosmos.

However his insistence that United played all the football owed more to his previous incarnation as commentator than events on the field.

Mitchell meanwhile was happy with the result but concerned at the second half collapse.

Power still has not adjusted to full time status, as clearly they posses neither the right kind of dynamic physical endurance nor the mental toughness to be challenging for honours as they should do

ASICS NSL BIG MATCH REPORT

Brownlie double Lifts Marconi

MARCONI STALLIONS 3
FOOTBALL KINGZ 1

By Ted Simmons

YOUNG striker Royce Brownlie defied doctor's orders to score a double as Marconi beat Football Kingz 3-1 to end a national soccer league hoodoo at Marconi Stadium on Saturday night.

The 20-year-old Brownlie, signed during the off-season from Queensland premier league team Brisbane City, opened the scoring in the 22nd minute and added his second 15 minutes from fulltime.

"Royce received a kick in the kidneys in the first half and the club doctor told him at halftime not to go back," said Marconi coach Eddie Krncevic.

"But he said he wanted to stay on and score a hat-trick".

Brownlie was at the right spot to score his first when Kingz defender Dennis Ibrahim missed a cross from Christian Care and co-defender Che Bunce also missed, leaving the Marconi striker an open goal.

The visitors rallied and two minutes later levelled the score when Buddy Farah headed a cross away from the Marconi goal to Mark Burton who lashed a 20 metre drive in to the net.

But Marconi Striker Kris Trajanovski curled a 70th minute free kick from just outside the penalty area into the top corner of the net to give Marconi a 2-1 lead and then produced a great cross-field place for Brownlie to seal the result.

It was the first time Marconi had beaten the Auckland team and the results moved them to within striking range of the Top Six

The only blemish for Marconi was the dismissal of solid defender Care who was sent off after receiving his second yellow card.

"The combination of the experienced Trajanovski and the young Brownlie is developing into a good partnership and could solve our scoring problems," Krncevic said.

The result was a blow for the Kingz who could lose a number of players in January when the New Zealand national team tours to India.

"We've had four away games for four losses and that's not good," said Kingz assistant coach Shane Rufer.

"We have pressure from within the team and from the country and the players are not used to being consistent all the time."

Brownlie posed a continual threat to the big Kiwi defence led by Bunce, Levent Osman and Riki van Steeden with his aggressive runs and snap shooting.

He was well supported with a string of passes from attacking midfielders Simon Bell, with Dominic Longo and Mark Babic marshalling the defence.

Despite the loss of Care, Marconi maintained its attack and frequently created gaping holes in the Kingz defence over the final stages.

Marconi Stallions 3 (R Brownlie 21', 75' K Trajanovski 65')
Kingz FC 1 (M Burton 23')
Venue: Marconi Stadium Referee: Gerry Connolly Attendance: 3,087
Cautions: C Care 35 R Brownlie 73' C Jackson 38' Red Cards: C Care 77'
Marconi Stallions: 1 David Aceski (gk) 3 Mark Babic 4 Angelo Costanzo 5 Dominic Longo 7 James Afkos (-85') 11 Christian Care 14 Buddy Farah 15 Royce Brownlie (-87') 21 Simon Bell 22 Kris Trajanovski (-87')27 Grant Last Substitutes 10 John Maisano (+87') 16 Harry Karl (+87') 19 Brendan Renaud (+85') 20 Michael Turnbull (gk)
Kingz FC: 20 Chris Marsh 2 Che Bunce 3 Aaran Lines 4 Levent Osman 5 Jonathon Perry 6 Chris Jackson (-71') 9 Paul Urlovic (-60') 11 Dennis Ibrahim 21 Riki Van Steeden (-79') 25 Tim Stevens 30 Mark Burton Substitutes 7 Wynton Rufer (+79') 12 Harry Ngata (+60') 16 Lee Jones (+71') 1 Julio Cuello (gk)

Hungry wolf defence sets up solid win

NEWCASTLE UNITED 1
WOLLONGONG WOLVES 3

By Greg Danvers

THE wounded Wollongong Wolves bounced back from a shock loss to Canberra the previous week by downing Steel City rivals Newcastle United 3-1 at Marathon Stadium.

Scott Chipperfield, who only just returned from a disappointing trial with English first division club Bolton, opened the visitors' account in the 23rd minute by heading home a David Cervinski nod on.

Robert Stanton all but sealed the match five minutes later.

The ball was volleyed across goal by Alvin Ceccoli for Stanton to head it past Newcastle keeper Bob Catlin.

Stanton increased the lead to 3-0 just before the halftime break after getting behind the defence to slot home a well-weighted Matthew Horsley cross.

Newcastle came out in the second half pressing to peg back the visitors' imposing lead.

With strong winds and driving rain at their back, the Novacastrians were denied by a hungry Wolves defence.

Daniel McBreen struck a neat left-footer in the 73rd minute to give the home side some hope

Left wingback Brad Wieczorek crossed to McBreen just outside the six-yard box, the striker snapping a great left-foot shot past Wolves keeper Grant Barlow and the near post.

"Every time we come here we attack but tonight we sat back to see what they would do," Wollongong Wolves coach Ron Corry said of his tactic to start with just one striker

"We had more time and room on the ball and should have been up 5-0 at the break.

"Chipperfield missed two sitters and he was lucky to have lasted the game, he just got off a plane."

Newcastle will have to find some of its lost passion to be in the hunt against Perth next week after being totally outclassed in the first half tonight.

"Against Wollongong we have always had an arm-wrestle, but tonight we got a football lesson," Newcastle coach Lee Sterrey said.

"We were looking for a wing and a prayer in the first half but we were chasing shadows.

"We will have to work a lot harder than we did tonight if we want to be in this competition at the end of the season."

Newcastle United 1 (D McBreen 73')
Wollongong Wolves 3 (S Chipperfield 23' R Stanton 28', 48+')
Referee Peter Green
Crowd 8,257
Venue Marathon Stadium
Newcastle United: 1 Bob Catlin (gk) 4 Chris Zoricich 5 Todd McManus 6 Glenn Sprod (-35') 7 Travis Dodd (-81') 8 Mark Wilson 9 Anthony Magnacca 10 John Buonavoglia 11 Peter Tsekenis 13 Brad Wieczorek 14 Anthony Surjan (-73') Substitutes 3 Andy Roberts (+81') 16 Vasko Trpcevski (+73') 19 Daniel McBreen (+35') 20 Brad Swancott (gk)
Wollongong Wolves: 20 Grant Barlow (gk) 2 George Souris 3 Alvin Ceccoli 4 Robert Stanton 5 David Cervinski 6 Matt Horsley 7 Paul Reid 10 Stuart Young 11 Scott Chipperfield (-79') 15 David Huxley 17 Ben Blake Substitutes 18 Paul O'Grady 19 Steven Dimitrevski (+79') 21 Frank Barila 22 Steven Angelov

NATIONAL GRABS

"After a good point away from home down in Melbourne, we are looking forward to a home victory on Friday night." David Mitchell.

"We need to maintain our work ethic and improve, as we did against Brisbane last week, after dropping two points at home." Alan Hunter.

"I'm sure our boys will be focussed on the task at hand. They'll be coming up here hurt from last week, and we will not be taking them lightly." Lee Sterrey.

"It is never easy to go to Newcastle, in particular when they are playing at Marathon. If Lee Sterrey plays a very defensive game, the side will be hard to break-down." Ron Corry

"It's great to be back at Bruce Stadium. Our games against South Melbourne are usually high scoring and entertaining affairs, and hopefully Saturday's game will be no different." Tom Sermanni (pictured).

"We expect three points against Adelaide, to follow our unbeaten run in Perth." Bernd Stange.

"Our visit to "the team" of this season is going to be very difficult for us. We respect quality and we shall be very careful." Zoran Matic.

"Clint Bolton's return and playing competition leader Olympic, will see a fired up Strikers team in action at Suncorp. This will also be the home debut for Brazilian striker, Fernando Rech." John Kosmina.

"We have been travelling well, but Brisbane are always difficult in Brisbane." Branko Culina.

"The Kingz put three goals past us on each of the two matches played against them last season. They are an extremely dangerous opponent who can tear apart any team on their day. We will have to hit close to peak form to claim the vital three points." Eddie Krncevic.

"Marconi is a much better team that what the ladder shows. We have to get results away from Ericsson, or we won't be there at the end of the season." Wynton Rufer.

"Our win over Perth was great. We played for 90 minutes and did the job all over the park. We now need to do it every week, starting with Carlton, which will be a tough game." Graham Arnold.

"Even in the first half, I don't think they out played us, they out played us on the scoreboard. I'm disappointed we didn't get at least a point, I thought we killed them in the second half, we were the only team playing football." Alan Hunter after the match against Power.

ASICS NSL BIG MATCH REPORT

Vargas injury time volley saves embattled Vanis

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2
EASTERN PRIDE 1

By Paul Gough

A magnificent volley in injury time from Andy Vargas may well have saved the national soccer league coaching career of Melbourne Knights' Vlado Vanis.

Vanis, under pressure throughout the season, had threatened to quit if his side could not beat winless Eastern Pride at Knights' Stadium.

And if not for Vargas' unstoppable effort from 20 metres three minutes into extra time his word would have been tested.

Instead the 2-1 win lifts the Knights up four places to seventh on the ladder and lifts the gloom over Somers Street.

It is the second time this season Vargas has possibly saved his boss' job after his goal two weeks ago won the match against Sydney United, ending a then three match losing streak

Vanis was a relieved man saying his side won despite producing a sub-standard performance for much of the game.

"We can improve 60 to 70 percent on that," he said.

"But if you win a game when you play bad then that is a good sign."

Vanis said he was confident he continued to enjoy the confidence of the Knights' board.

"I don't feel pressure because I know I do my job honest and professional and as long as I do that, I think my job is safe."

However the rumblings of discontent at Somers Street were quite audible when the home side went behind in the 50th minute, thanks to an own goal from defender Paul Magdic.

Magdic headed a right wing cross from the Pride's Michael Katz after a comical mix-up with keeper Lupce Alevski.

Melbourne Knights 2 (A Cervinski 54' A Vargas 93')
Eastern Pride 1 (P Magdic Own Goal 51')
Venue. Knights Stadium Referee: Angelo Nardi
Attendance. 4,178
Cautions. A Kiratzoglou 12'A Kovacic 66' M Stergiopoulos 69'C Bell 80' J Hutchinson 88' M Gotis 92'
Melbourne Knights: 20 Lupce Acevski (gk) 3 Rod Vargas 4 Sash Ognenovski 5 Jason Vukadin 6 Joey Rajher (-60') 9 Joel Porter 14 Paul Magdic (-54') 16 Alex Kiratzoglou 18 Andrew Vargas 22 Toto Da Costa 25 Adrian Cervinski (-84')
Substitutes: 11 Xhezair Sulemani (+84') 13 Antun Kovacic (+60') 21 Zoltan Zold (+54') 29 Robert Graskoski (gk)
Eastern Pride: 20 Eugen Galekovic (gk) 2 Dean Fak 3 Manny Gotis 5 Ante Deak (-76') 6 Brian MacNicol (-84') 7 Michael Katz 8 Clayton Bell 10 Robbie Puca (-67') 11 John Hutchinson 18 Daniel Watkins 25 Marcus Stergiopoulos Substitutes 12 Naum Sekulovski (+67') 14 Juan Nilo (+84') 19 Adam Griffiths (+76')

Stabber scores but Reilly could be the saviour

By Paul Millar

CARLTON 1
NORTHERN SPIRIT 1

THE smell of death lingers over Carlton Soccer Club but the players showed they'll fight it out to the end with a battling 1-1 draw over Northern Spirit.

There was doubt they would even play at Epping Stadium after funds dried up, but the players' union stepped in and paid today's wages and the players earned every penny of it in stifling conditions.

Spirit coach Graham Arnold, whose club was in a similar situation before being taken over by Glasgow Rangers, said it would be "a crying shame" if Carlton was allowed to drop out of the league.

Despite not knowing if they would play, Arnold said he expected a battle from a side that included former internationals Andrew Marth and Dave McPherson.

"They are winners and they do not know how to lie down for anybody," Arnold said.

Carlton coach Stuart Munro, who is also owed money, said the players had risen above the uncertainty to turn in a top performance and made it clear he was in the same position as the rest of the team.

"I'm working because I love working for Carlton Soccer Club, I'm exactly the same as the rest of them," he said

"It's obviously difficult but full credit to the players for their professionalism today."

Munro however conceded the uncertainty about the club's future was starting to take its toll and the team would have won its last two matches if they had not been forced to wonder whether they would be playing next week.

If the match is Carlton's swansong as Arnold said it will go out fighting.

Marth gave the home side the lead when he latched onto a deflected shot, drilling it in off the post just before the turn.

But former Carlton striker Alex Moreira levelled 10 minutes after the break with a powerful header.

Archie Thompson smashed the ball against the crossbar but Spirit, marshalled by Arnold at the back, held on for a valuable point.

National Soccer League general manager Stefan Kamasz, who was at the game, will meet with officials this week but he made it clear that Soccer Australia would not be bailing the club out.

The players' union asked for SA to draw the players wages from its $250,000 licence fee and it's $250,000 admission bond but that won't happen.

He said that would contaminate the restructuring of the league which is being cut from 16 to 12 clubs.

"If another club misses out they will say that we helped Carlton out and did not help them," Kamasz said.

He also admitted if the club fell over it would be the end of a vision started by former SA boss David Hill to bring the game into the mainstream community.

"If this fails it does not say much for that strategy," he said.

Carlton is hopeful that it can this week convince investors that there is a future for the club with former club chairman Jack Reilly considered a potential life saver.

Carlton 1 (A Marth 44')
Northern Spirit 1 (A Moreira 55')
Venue: Epping Stadium
Referee: Brett Hugo
Attendance: 3,109
Cautions. M Langdon 13'P Bilokapic 33'N Spencer 77'
Carlton: 1 Dean Anastasiadis (gk) 2 Dave McPherson 3 Craig Deans 4 Simon Colosimo 6 Andrew Marth 7 Robert Middleby 11 Archie Thompson 16 David Terminello (-53') 18 Steve Horvat 19 Daniel Vasilevski (-71') 25 Ivo De Jesus (-46') Substitutes 10 Lubo Lapsansky (+53') 14 John Markovski (+46') 17 Angelo Motsiopoulos (+71') 20 Steve Tilovski (gk)
Northern Spirit: 20 Paul Henderson (gk) 2 Michael Cunico 3 Matthew Langdon (-70) 6 Scott Thomas (-87) 8 Robbie Enes 9 Alex Moreira (-78) 11 Troy Cranney 12 Ben Burgess 17 Paul Bilokapic 25 Craig Foster 30 Graham Arnold Substitutes 14 Noel Spencer (+70) 15 Tony Perinich (+78) 22 Jack Sobczyk (+87) 1 1 John Perosh (gk)

SOCCER SATURDAY

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Force streak over thanks to Glory

PERTH GLORY 2
ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 0

ADELAIDE City Force's four game unbeaten streak came to an inglorious end at the hands of the Perth Glory

In front of its smallest home crowd of the season - 10,916 - the Glory supplied a goal in each half to record a well deserved win.

Perth dominated from the outset and created numerous opportunities but in the end had to settle for a 10th minute goal by John Carbone and a second half penalty to Bobby Despotovski.

Agony quickly turned to ecstasy for Carbone who was starting for the first time this season after being called up to cover injuries.

Carbone was booked after just two minutes for a crude tackle from behind but eight minutes later gave the Glory the lead.

The 23-year-old had never scored in 31 previous appearances for the Glory but was the beneficiary of some sparkling teamwork from Despotovski and Gary Faria.

It was Faria that ultimately provided the cross to the far post, where Carbone was one of two unmarked Glory players and was able to slot the ball safely into the back of the net.

The Glory should have had another goal six minutes later when Damien Mori rifled a telling pass to Despotovski at the far post who missed from close range.

There were numerous other half chances for the Glory as they threatened constantly in the first stanza.

Adelaide's best two chances in the first half fell to substitute Scott Tunbridge, who wasn't up to the challenge on either occasion.

Despite its missed chances, Perth sealed the three points for the victory when Despotovski won and converted a 79th minute penalty.

Perth Glory 2 (J Carbone 10' B Despotovski 79' pen)
Adelaide City Force 0
Venue: Perth Oval Referee: Eddie Lennie Attendance: 10,912
Cautions: J Carbone 2' J Hamwell 24' F Bucciarelli 32' I Karlovic 58'
Perth Glory: 1 Adrian Cagalj (gk) 4 Ante Kovacevic 5 Fabrizio Bucciarelli 6 Louis Brain (-63') 8 Carl Veart 9 Nick Sabljak (-4') 10 Aurelio Vidmar 11 Bradley Hassell 15 Lucas Pantelis 18 Ivan Karlovic 19 Claudio Pelosi Substitutes 12 Peter Buljan (+80') 14 Dion Valle (+84') 21 Paul Roberts (+73') 20 Tony Franken (gk)
Adelaide City Force: 1 Adrian Cagalj (gk) 4 Ante Kovacevic 5 Fabrizio Bucciarelli 6 Louis Brain (-63') 8 Carl Veart 9 Nick Sabljak (-4') 10 Aurelio Vidmar 11 Bradley Hassell 15 Lucas Pantelis 18 Ivan Karlovic 19 Claudio Pelosi Substitutes 2 Gianluca Lagati (+63') 12 Scott Tunbridge (+4') 13 Kristian Rees

ASICS NSL BIG MATCH REPORT

Harris fire gives Brisbane the edge

By Glenn Davis

BRISBANE STRIKERS 2
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1

A FIRED up Brisbane Strikers ended Sydney Olympic's unbeaten national soccer league run with a 2-1 victory at Suncorp Stadium.

The Strikers, who were languishing in second last place with just five points before the match, dashed Olympic's hopes of extending its running sequence to eight games without a loss

After a fiery start to the match in which five players were booked in the opening half for late tackles, midfielder Jeromy Harris gave the Strikers the early edge, finishing off one of the night's better movements in the 32nd minute

Midfielder Nick Meredith, one of the first half bookings, crossed perfectly to the far post for striker Paul Foster who duly snuck in a goal past former team-mate Clint Bolton

Apart from the goal, the opening half was shared evenly, but Sydney referee Con Dromis had his hands full controlling a fiery encounter in which Strikers midfielder Wayne Srhoj was shown the red card for his second bookable offence.

The Strikers had two late chances in the opening half but poor finishing haunted them again.

The first came for Meredith who blasted a 30 metre shot just wide of the upright while Foster struck a close range shot wide.

The Strikers maintained the pressure after the interval and had a further opportunity within five minutes to increase their lead

A free kick from Srhoj curled in for captain Stu McLaren and the ball seemed to be headed Foster's way for a goal.

But some desperate defence saw the visitors clear just before Foster could pounce for an easy tap in.

Foster eventually put the match beyond doubt six minutes from time, Olympic grabbing a consolation goal in injury time through substitute Damon Collina.

Brisbane Strikers 2 (J Harris 33' P Foster 85')
Sydney Olympic 1 (D Collina 93')
Venue: Suncorp Metway Stadium
Referee: Con Dromis
Attendance: 2,448
Cautions: W Shroj 14' P Foster 24' N Meredith 26' T Halpin 16' G Goutzioulis 35'
Brisbane Strikers: 1 Daniel Duke (gk) 3 Shane Stefanutto 5 Matthew Bell 6 Peter Grierson (-62') 9 Paul Foster 10 Wayne Srhoj 13 Stuart McLaren 15 Andrew Davidson 17 Jeromy Harris 18 Nick Meredith (-80') 22 Fernando Rech Substitutes 8 Adam Webber 11 Peter Dwyer (+80') 16 Shane Smeltz (+62') 30 Corey Baldock
Sydney Olympic: 1 Clint Bolton (gk) 2 Sebastian Sinozic 3 Lindsay Wilson 4 Paul Kohler (-60') 6 Ante Juric 8 Ante Moric (-67') 10 Troy Halpin 11 George Goutzioulis 12 Glenn Moore 14 Greg Owens (-60') 19 Nick Carle Substitutes 9 Mass Sarr (+60') 13 Damon Collina (+60') 15 Dylan MacAllister (+67')20 John Karoubas (gk)

Polished South see off Cosmos at Bruce

By Graham Cooke

CANBERRA COSMOS 1
SOUTH MELBOURNE 3

SOUTH Melbourne turned in one of its most slick, professional performances of the national soccer league season to beat Canberra Cosmos 3-1 at Bruce Stadium on Saturday night.

A flurry of early action at both ends led to the opening goal.

First Con Boutsianis got in behind the Cosmos defence to take a cross from David Clarkson but headed wide.

The ball went to the other end and Alex Castro was left holding his head in frustration as his shot from three metres clipped the crossbar and went over.

Within 60 seconds South was in front.

Shane Lyons left Vaughan Coveny too much space and with time to spare the midfielder steered his shot wide of goalkeeper Barney Smith and into the far corner of the net.

South went further ahead in the 70th and once again suspect defending resulted in the goal.

A long out-swinging corner found Steve Panopoulos on the edge of the penalty area, his shot spilled by Smith straight to the feet of veteran striker Paul Trimboli who scored one of the easier goals of his long career

Canberra coach Tom Sermanni brought Brad Scott and Andy Rakic off the substitute bench and within two minutes they had combined for a goal.

Rakic set up Scott with a cross from the left which the New Zealander headed decisively home. But the final act belonged to South Melbourne and to another substitute.

Goran Lozanovski stabbed the ball past Smith with a minute remaining.

South coach Micky Petersen said he was delighted with the performance after the match.

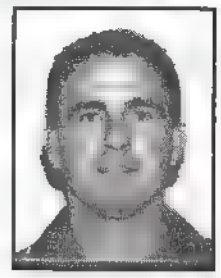
"We don't often come away from Canberra with all three points," he said. "We played well throughout the team tonight."

Sermanni said he was not unhappy with the way his team played.

"The third goal took the gloss off, but up to then when had looked competitive," he said.

Canberra Cosmos 1(B Scott 77')
South Melbourne 3 (V Coveny 17'P Trimboli 70' G Lozanovski 89')
Venue Bruce Stadium Referee: Perry Mur Attendance: 2,619
Cautions. R Hooker 86'
Canberra Cosmos: 20 Barney Smith (gk) 3 Toplica Popovich 5 Nicholas Purdue 7 Mark Hagger (-75') 8 David Milin (-60') 9 Alex Castro 10 Jon Angelucci 11 David Arranz 13 Shane Lyons (-75') 17 Robbie Hooker 19 Hiroshi Miyazawa Substitutes 4 Andrew Ravanello (+60') 14 Andy Rakic (+75') 18 Brad Scott (+75') 1 Angelo Konstantinou (gk)
South Melbourne: 1 Michael Petkovic (gk) 3 Fausto De Amicis 4 Mehmed Durakovic 6 David Clarkson 7 Steve Panopoulos 8 Vaughan Coveny (-70') 9 Paul Trimboli 10 Con Boutsianis 13 Andy Vlahos (-82') 16 Zeljko Susa 19 Patrick Krsnorbo Substitutes 2 Steve Iosifidis 14 Vas Kalogeracos (+70')15 Goran Lozanovski (+82') 20 Chris Jones (gk)

COKELY ON THE NSL



IN 1989 former Celtic, South Melbourne and then Wollongong star Danny Crainie and seven Wollongong team-mates ran walked and jogged on a treadmill in a climate chamber for 11.5 km to gain some data on fluid loss in N.S.L players in hot and humid conditions.

The reason why Crainie was suckered into this task, which included having a rectal thermometer inserted in his, well his rectum, was to provide data to prevent any disasters from happening in the new summer soccer N.S.L.

The results were never made public and Soccer Australia has over the years walked a tightrope on this issue.

While there have been no publicly known cases of severe heat illness there have been countless games ruined through a degradation of player performance.

The results showed even in conditions of 26 degrees and 75% humidity the water loss of close to 2% of body weight across the eight subjects was significant.

A similar investigation on French professional soccer players (Demonteil, 1979) showed variations in loss of body water from 1.7 to 5.3 kg at an average temperature of 28.5 degrees C and a relative humidity of 86%.

Studies have revealed that competing athletes generally have a fluid intake far too low to compensate for the loss of body water.

In Norwegian soccer players (Hermansen et al), the average weight losses of the team were 2.51 - 3.17% of the corresponding body weight, whereas the fluid intake of each team was only 0.76 - 0.96% of the average body weights.

An African study in 1979 found that at 26 degrees C and 78% humidity, players lost as much as 3.14% of body weight.

One can infer that the soccer players on an average had their working capacity reduced by 15 - 25% during a match and that this loss of capacity to a large extent could have been prevented by an increased intake of water.

Other studies have shown that fluid loss of as little as 2% of body weight has caused noticeable impairment of performance and 5% would cause physical collapse.

It might be extreme to say someone could die in the heat of the day in an N.S.L. game but heat related conditions, some severe, such as exhaustion and shock are highly likely in a game played at over 30 degrees.

4pm kick offs in Western Sydney are frankly not on.

Financial concerns are being put above player safety, and game quality.

Soccer Australia needs to establish a firm protocol regarding heat affected fixtures, and when games are played in hot humid conditions fluid replacement guidelines must be in place.

At present Soccer Australia's position is that no game kicks off before 4pm including youth fixtures.

However whether the game goes ahead is up to the match day referee.

Fluid replacement during a game is also up to the referee's discretion.

There are not any guidelines to prevent excessive fluid loss.

Soccer Australia is gambling against the heat having cooled somewhat by late afternoon, but does not consider the effects of humidity which prevents evaporative heat loss in players.

Players are being put at risk, and spectators are being short changed again.

Bryan Cokely is a former player with experience at a high level with Swansea City and Wollongong Wolves. He has also spent some time coaching. More recently he has written for Inside Soccer *and our sister publication,* Celtic-World. *Bryan brings a player's perspective to journalism.*

COMING IN 2001
SuperSoccer on TUESDAYS

ASICS PREMIER LEAGUE BIG MATCH REPORT

Saints hang on for narrow win at rainy Bestic Street

By Peter Smith

ST GEORGE 2
SUTHERLAND SHARKS 1

St George claimed Southern Sydney bragging rights when they resisted all that both the Sutherland Sharks and the weather could throw at them last Friday night at St George Stadium.

Having won both matches last season by five goals to nil, the Saints might have been guilty of some complacency going into the match.

However the Sharks are made of sterner stuff these days and the home team had to fight right to the final whistle to claim a 2-1 victory.

For the third home match in a row, St George Stadium was the victim of foul weather.

This time, unlike two weeks earlier, the match was able to go ahead despite the constant rain and the, at times, near gale force winds.

Indeed the pitch held up remarkably well with the thick coating of grass quickly soaking up the rain so that no water gathered on the surface.

For much of the first half it was a case of much huffing and puffing for not much return

Both teams seemingly unable to create the final pass that would allow for a significant strike on goal.

For Sutherland their first notable attempt came when Grant McDonald got on the end of a Sharks counterattack.

However, Saints keeper Stacey Alogdellis, who went into the match carrying an injury, denied McDonald with a low block.

At the other end St George's Angelo Petratos fired over a few minutes later as he turned just inside the box but the paucity of goalmouth action ensured that the scores remained deadlocked at the interval.

The second stanza was a much different affair in more ways than one.

The chances on goal increased dramatically but surely it was significant that the rain stopped and even the wind dropped considerably

Just nine minutes in, Colin McAusland opened the scoring for the Sharks with what was his debut goal for the club.

A cross from the right evaded everyone before falling to the midfielder who had had time to line up his shot albeit from an awkward 45 degree angle.

Even though Alogdellis was barely off his line McAusland scored with apparent ease as his classy chip gave the Saints keeper no chance.

Sutherland could have doubled their lead a short while later when they had up to three good chances to score as a loose ball ricocheted around the Saints goalmouth.

However the chance went begging and ultimately this moment was to prove decisive.

On seventy minutes St George deservedly scored and it was substitute Emmanuel Papageorgiou, having only been on the field for some seven minutes who equalled the ledger

Nick Polymenakos, despite having little room to move near the by-line, put in smart cross for the on-rushing Papageorgiou who scored with a quality header.

Seven minutes later Polymenakos was again the provider when he swung over a corner from the right that Daniel Farias in the Sutherland goal, was unable to hold leaving Petratos to gleefully smash the loose ball home for what was to be the winning goal

Petratos had another chance to score with a close range header as regulation time expired but he was unable to make convincing contact.

In injury time and with almost the last kick of the game Grant McDonald could have salvaged a draw for the visitors but not for the first time Alogdellis denied him.

McDonald sweeping Paul Donnelly's low cross goalward but Alogdellis was down very quickly to cap an impressive performance from the St George custodian.

The result left Sutherland coach Billy McColl a disappointed man.

"We beat ourselves - and not for the first time this season" said McColl referring to the missed chances in front of goal

In all, a fairly typical derby that in the end could have gone either way but ultimately it was St George that took their chances when it mattered.

St George 2 (Papageorgiou 70, Petratos 77)
Sutherland 1 (McAusland 54)

St George: Alogdellis, Maglis, Bolianitis, Markopoulos (Petrovski 82), Kladis, Verrender, Petratos, Alexiou (Bariamis 75), Kalantzis (Papageorgiou 63), Polymenakos, Sevares
Cautions: Verrender 44, Polymenakos 87

Sutherland: Farias, Judge, Pettenon, Robertson, Stajcic, G McDonald, I McDonald (Spresian 82), Bard, McAusland (Kanaan 82), Zelvis (Donnelly 70), Pullicino
Cautions: Pettenon 89

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ASICS PREMIER LEAGUE BIG MATCH REPORT

Giannasca inspired but Blue Devils go down

by Mark Fowler

CENTRAL COAST 2
BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS 1

THE Central Coast Coasties ended a run of three successive defeats with a well-deserved 2-1 victory over the Belconnen Blue Devils at North Power Stadium.

The Blue Devils would have made the long trip north with high expectations with three wins out of four under their belts, but they never looked likely to get anything after producing a very poor performance.

In truth the scoreline flattered the visitors, and while Steve Lazzari ensured he would be the NSW Premier League's leading scorer after five rounds with his seventh of the season, there was little else to cheer for Belconnen.

The Coasties got off to a perfect start after just 17 minutes when Mitch Daley's long ball was hopelessly missed by Belconnen midfielder Josh Whittington.

Whittington's only excuse could be that he was back in defence filling in for Craig Unwin, who was receiving treatment, but he somehow misjudged the ball in the air to miss it completely, and Clint Smith had the easy task of shotting past the exposed Anthony Giannasca.

Ten minutes later the Coasties went 2-0 up, with again a Belconnen defender missing the ball, and this time Shane Knight strode down the left-hand side of the park and squared the ball to Adam Peatey.

The little midfielder notched his second of the season with similar ease to Smith's goal.

A Belconnen revival never came, and the Coasties twice came close to scoring from corners when the balls played in inexcusably found their players unmarked.

On 41 minutes it was so nearly 3-0 - Knight just got to the ball before Giannasca and looped a header goalwards, but Belconnen defender Mark Jenkins superbly cleared the ball off the goal-line.

Instead of 3-0 though, 30 seconds later the scoreline was 2-1.

Jaime Mauro knocked a ball through to Lazzari, and he never looked like missing as he expertly drove the ball past Darren Moore in the Coasties goal.

It was an undeserved goal but set up what should have been an interesting second-half.

It wasn't.

Those in the crowd expecting Belconnen to thrown everything at the Coasties would have been disappointed, as neither team ever looked like changing the scoreline.

The addition of Leo Langone in the second half gave the visitors more direction, and once he gets match-fit he should make a huge difference.

The only chances of the second period though both fell to the Coasties.

Giannasca superbly palmed away a Shaun Matthews free-kick, and then with the last kick of the game Coasties substitute Peter Preston appeared in two minds with the ball at his feet through on goal, and faced with the options of shooting or squaring the ball did neither.

The Blue Devils put in a performance that doesn't befit a team that has won three out of four, and they won't play as badly again.

As they have already proved they will be difficult to beat at home, although to ensure they are in the Top Four at the end of the season will need to come to Sydney and pick up points on a regular basis.

As for the Coasties, they played like they were the team near the top of the table, and they put in a typically hard-working performance.

Mick Williams and Steve Cutler, a first half substitute for Marcus Steele who took a nasty head-knock, were both often given acres of space down the flanks, and although the Coasties failed to utilise them to great effect both players did well.

With a game coming up against Sutherland the Coasties are in a real position to grab six points from two games - at this early stage that will see teams jump three or four places.

The Blue Devils meanwhile entertain Bonnyrigg, whose coach Doug Utjesenovic was at North Power Stadium watching the game.

His only concern will be that Belconnen can't play as poorly twice in a row...surely?

Belconnen's Steve Lazzari: now the League's top scorer

Central Coast 2 (Smith 17', Peatey 27')
Belconnen 1 (Lazzari 42')
Venue: North Power Stadium, Gosford
Referee: Vic Gauci
Central Coast: Moore, Daley, Steele (Cutler 38') Matthews, Hokin, Peatey, Knight, Williams, Ritchie (Sontag 71') Smith (Preston 85') Leary SUBS NOT USED: Byrn, Collits.
Belconnen Blue Devils: Giannasca, Manson, Cachia, Pietrukowski, Mauro, Zamora, Lazzari, Cattanach, Unwin, Whittington (Jullienne 71') Jenkins (Langone 45') SUBS NOT USED: Freeman, Gagetti.

BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS

PREMIER LEAGUE ACTION

Saturday December 9
THE GABBIE

V

ST GEORGE SAINTS

First Grade Kick Off 7pm
Under 19s Kick Off 5pm

Man in black heckled as Donev seals win

BY Binesh Mudaliar

PENRITH 0
BLACKTOWN CITY 1

WITH AIK Solna and Socceroo midfielder Luke Casserly one of the interested onlookers at Andrews Road Field, Blacktown City did what they had to do to against Penrith to extend their unbeaten run to 24 games and their winning streak to 10 games.

Following the transfer of Damien Brown to Parramatta Power during the week, Zlatko Donev and Darren Iocca started upfront for the Demons while Blacktown City favourite son, Damien Foxe, returned from a loan stint at Sydney United to occupy a position alongside Brian Brown on the bench.

After a relatively uneventful first-half, the match jumped to life in the second set of forty-five. Donev scored his second goal of the season after rounding Penrith goalkeeper Chad Taylor to give Blacktown City the lead in the 49th minute.

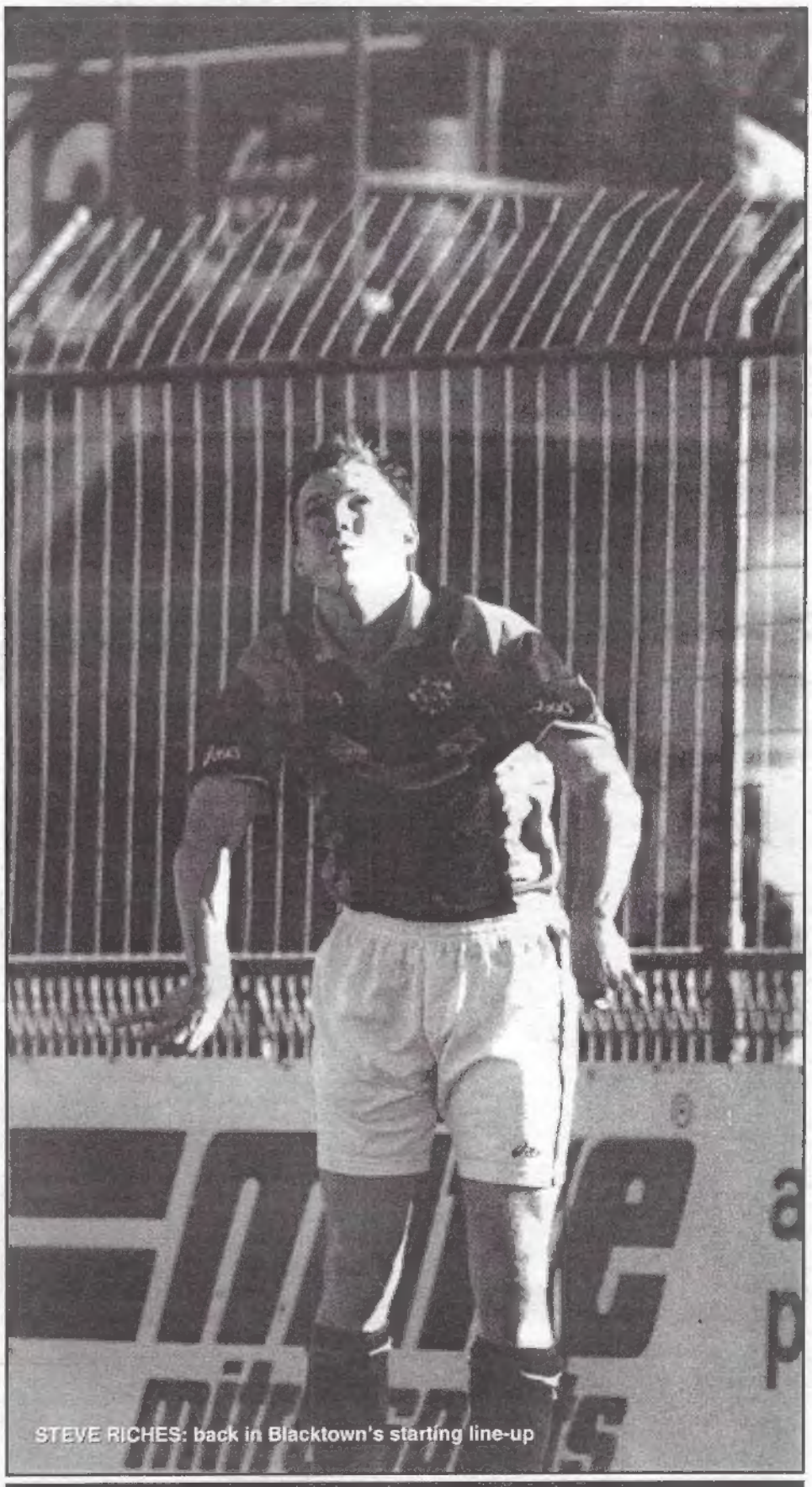
From there, the game developed into a fiery affair.

Referee Nick Arsagiotis had his hands full with overzealous tackles, anxious sideline activity and an irate crowd.

Penrith meanwhile pushed forward at every opportunity and did not hesitate in testing John Crawley in the Blacktown goal from downtown.

In the 90th minute, the Panthers were almost rewarded for their attacking efforts, when Danny Hinton, after teasing and taunting the Demons defence, cracked a shot from 12 metres out to beat Crawley but not the right goal post. Blacktown continue on their merry way, while Penrith can take heart from the performance of young midfielders Ryan Jones, Jason Sciberras and Tim O' Connell.

Penrith 0
Blacktown City 1 (Donev 49m)
Attendance: 300
Penrith: Taylor, Cleary (Hawkins 74m), Wright, Sciberras, B Casserly, Jones (S Casserly 67m), M Driene, Ackerley (Hinton 56m), A Driene, Marosevic, O'Connell
Cautions: M Driene 78m
Blacktown City: Crawley, Yates, Sermanni, Langan, Mikoutski, Donev (Bradley 82m), Riches, Willard, Iocca (Connolly 87m), Gatt, Angievski (Kwasnik 76m)
Cautions: Yates 48m, Gatt 80m, Iocca 85m, Langan 89m


STEVE RICHES: back in Blacktown's starting line-up

GAMES OFF

Wet weather again caused disruption to NSW Premier League fixtures, with Friday night's inner-western Sydney derby between Canterbury Marrickville and Leichhardt called off by the local Council, and referee Greg Leverton declaring the Serbian Centre surface unplayable for the match of the round between Bonnyrigg and Parramatta Eagles.

Semi finals time: a great game of women's soccer!

NSW SAPPHIRES

Saturday 3 November
5.00pm: NSW Sapphires
v Northern NSW Pride

St George Stadium,
Bestic Street,
Rockdale

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PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES

SUTHERLAND
First-Grade:
1. Daniel Farias
2. Tony Judge
3. Jeremy Pettenon
4. Sean Robertson
5. Alen Stajcic
6. Pat Darvill
7. Jason Baron
8. Paul Donnelly
9. Grant McDonald
10. Ian McDonald
11. Grant Bard ©
12. Ahmed Ibrahim
13. Dean Spresian
14. Goce Trposki
15. Anthony Kanaan
16. Colin McAusland
17. Dejan Ristovski
18. Chris Zelvis
20. Peter Pulicino
22. Leo Premutico
Coach: Billy McColl

Under-19: 1. Adam Kurtz 2. Leigh Magri 3. Scott Allison 4. Nathan Trajcevski 5. Matteo Maiorana 6. Mathew Toogood 7. Ben Kasznik 8. Sefir Yildiz 9. Chris Velovski 10. Kris Karanasos 11. Matthew Parker 12. Ray Kelly 13. Stuart Southall 14. Carlo Musumeci 15. Marino Musumeci 16. George Galouzis 17. Andrew Wales 18. Matthew Said Coach: Alex Baird

SUTHERLAND SHARKS V CENTRAL COAST
Saturday 9 December
Seymour Shaw
1st Grade Kick Off 7pm
Youth Grade Kick Off 5pm

CENTRAL COAST COASTIES
FIRST-GRADE:
1. Matthew Collitts
2. Mitchell Daley
3. Marcus Steele
4. Sean Matthews
5. Dane Hokin
6. Steve Cutler
7. Adam Peatey
8. Shane Knight
9. Nathan Byrn
10. Mick Williams
11. Peter Ritchie
12. Cal Roper
13. David Anderson
15. Peter Leary
16. Ryan Marshall
17. Rod Hutchinson
18. Daniel Surridge
19. Stuart Sontag
22. Darren Moore
Coach: Dale Eggleton
Asst Coach: Andrew Ollier

Under-19: 1. Scott Horvat 2. Scott Jones 3. David Brewer 4. Nathan Carmody 5. Michael Cook 6. Mark Falzon 7. Jason Donnelly 8. Justin Selkirk 9. Jason McMinimee 10. Reece Lewin 12. Daniel Surridge 13. Clint Smith 14. Peter Preston 15. David Anderson 16. Mick Coates 19. Stuart Sontag Coach: John McClafferty

BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS
First-Grade:
1. Tony Giannasca
2. Scott Manson
3. Matt Cachia
4. Lee Pietrukowski
5. Craig Unwin
6. Jaime Mauro
7. Oscar Zamora
8. Leo Langone
9. Steve Lazzari
10. George Cattanach
11. Geoff Howarth
12. Robert Schroder
13. Josh Whittington
14. John Rakic
15. Mark Jenkins
18. Matt Juilenne
20. Chris Freeman
Coach: Lino Fiorese

Under-19: 1. Chris Freeman 2. Greg Ralston 3. Karl Varley 4. Edward Harris 5. Sam Mehr 6. Trent Exposito 7. Seb Rizzo 8. Richard Pietrukowski 9. Michael Percival 10. Clinton Larfield 11. Brad Smith 12. David Selby 13. Simon Lloyd 14. Steve Lee 16. Paul Gagetti 20. Michael Thomsen 21. Rhys Turner Coach: Paul Ontong

BELCONNEN BLUE DEVILS V BONNYRIGG
Saturday 9 December
Greenway Oval
1st Grade Kick Off 6.30pm
Youth Grade Kick Off 4.30pm

BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES
First-Grade:
1. Fernando Greco
2. Sasha Utjesenovic
3. James Warburton
4. Borislav Dragas
6. Tayfun Devrimol
7. Javier Mancino
8. David Harding
9. Colin Luff
11. Johnny Ghisso
13. Robert Gomez
14. Leigh Gunn
15. Stewart Van Bentum
16. Michael Hawrysiuk
18. Rajko Mandic
22. David Reid
23. Devrim Huseyin
20. Trinity Allen
Coach: Doug Utjesenovic

Under-19: 2. Uros Vukelic 3. Daniel Kaluderovic 4. Garth Moring 5. Alex Arregin 6. Zeljko Gusa 7. Abraham Aroyan 8. Stavros Arzapitian 9. Daniel Borg 10. Darrell Fernandes 11. Bill Panoutsopoulos 12. Daniel McCann 13. Ryan O'Shea 14. Richard Minvielle 15. Daniel Koziow 16. Matthew Pearman Coach: Danny Blanusa

LEICHHARDT TIGERS
First-Grade:
1. Shaun Woods
2. Fabio Macolino
3. Blago Milicevic
4. Richard Luksic
5. Michael Galluzzo
6. Vuko Tomasevic
7. Joe Bruni
8. James Stubbs-Mills
9. Steve Karavatakis
10. Matthew Borg
11. Sam La Rocca
12. Andrew Nicol
13. Andrew Falas
14. Zoki Adloski
15. Greg Fuchs
16. Tony Tesoro
17. Jason Lal
18. Daniel Ucchino
19. Andrew Nolan
20. Luke Tomic
21. John Paul Boutros
22. Joshua Bulgin
30. Con Anastasiadis
Coach: Les DeCelis

Under-19s: 1. Cameron Moore 2. Paul Nicolaou 3. Liam Cameron 4. Daniel Cunningham 5. Moussa Chahine 6. Joseph Ciano 7. Daniel Coluccio 8. Tom Quilty 9. Michael O'Riley 10. Francesco Zarrella 11. Peter Talcevski 12. Josh De'Kelly 13. Robert Campagna 14. Mark Catelli 15. Garry Van Diggele Coach: John Romeo

LEICHHARDT TIGERS V PENRITH PANTHERS
Saturday 9 December
Lambert Park
1st Grade Kick Off 7pm
Youth Grade Kick Off 5pm

PENRITH PANTHERS
First-Grade:
22. Ivan Necevski
2. Paul Cleary
3. Steve Sweeney
4. Kaan Davies
5. Ben Wright
6. Jason Sciberras
7. Bob Casserly
8. Ryan Jones
9. Danny Hinton
10. Martin Driene
11. Chris Ackerley
12. Simon Casserly
13. Scott Ashton
14. Shane Hammond
15. Anthony Driene
16. Jon Hawkins
17. Sandro Borsato
18. Jon Grima
19. Con Siciliano
20. Osvaldo El Ali
21. Alan Worobiej
24. Chad Taylor
Luke Boyd
Dave Gardiner
Tim O'Connell
Coach: Stan Ackerley

Under-19: 1. Chad Taylor 2. Gus Orcajo 3. Dale Fillingham 4. Daniel Wells 5. Shannon King 6. Mark Mijas 7. David Gardiner 8. Craig Speechley 9. Omar Makki 10. Luke Boyd 11. Tim O'Connell 12. Naj Haddid 13. Jason Sciberras 14. Simon Emmanuel 15. Matthew Sutton 17. Brett Eldridge 18. Scott Tyrrell 23. Owen Rogers Coach: Jose D'jalo

BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS
1. John Crawley
2. Paul Yates
3. Jason Connolly
4. Peter Sermanni
5. Chris Bradley
6. Damon Langan
7. Paul Dee
8. Mark Racker
9. Jim Aschner
10. Vadim Mikoutski
11. Damien Foxe
12. Zlatko Donev
13. Steve Riches
14. Ben Willard
15. Darren Iocca
16. Patrick Gatt
17. Joshua Maguire
18. Adam Kwasnik
19. Robert Angievski
20. James Wilkinson
Coach: Brian Brown

Under-19: 20. James Wilkinson 21. Brett Mason 22. Ryan Noble 23 Feruccio Hanza 24. Steve Baveas 25. Chad Lewis 26. Roger Galayini 27. Gokhan Ada 28. Scott Milne 29. Anthony Ucchino 33. Nelson McLaughlin 40. Kurt Van Arkells
Coach: Tom McMorrow

BLACKTOWN CITY V ST GEORGE
Saturday 9 December
The Gabbie
1st Grade Kick Off 7pm
Youth Grade Kick Off 5pm

St GEORGE
First-Grade:
1. Stacy Alogdellis
2. George Maglis
3. Nick Boliantitis
4. Archileas Markopoulos
5. Michael Kladis
6. Simon Verrender
7. George Zabetakis
8. Bill Petrovski
9. Angelo Petratos
10. Leon Alexiou
11. Chris Kalantzis
12. Nick Polimenakos
13. Mirak Bacek
14. Mark Bariamis
15. Steve Papadopoulos
16. Alex Leris
17. Emmanuel Papageorgiou
18. Bradley Campbell
19. Daisuke Nakayama
21. Max Sevares
22. David O'Han
23. Jamie Danaskos
Coach: John Sentas

Under-19: 1. Murray Nelson 2. Bill Madonis 3. Mark Stavroulakis 4. Tim Jesus 5. Joe Lempriere 6. Paulo Oliveira 7. Misko Pokrajac 8. Mark Guerreiro 9. Mohamed El-Reda 10. Joe Dia 11. Stane Pokrajac 12. Robert Tassone 13. Peter Andriotis 26. Stewart Vella Coach: Ian Gillan

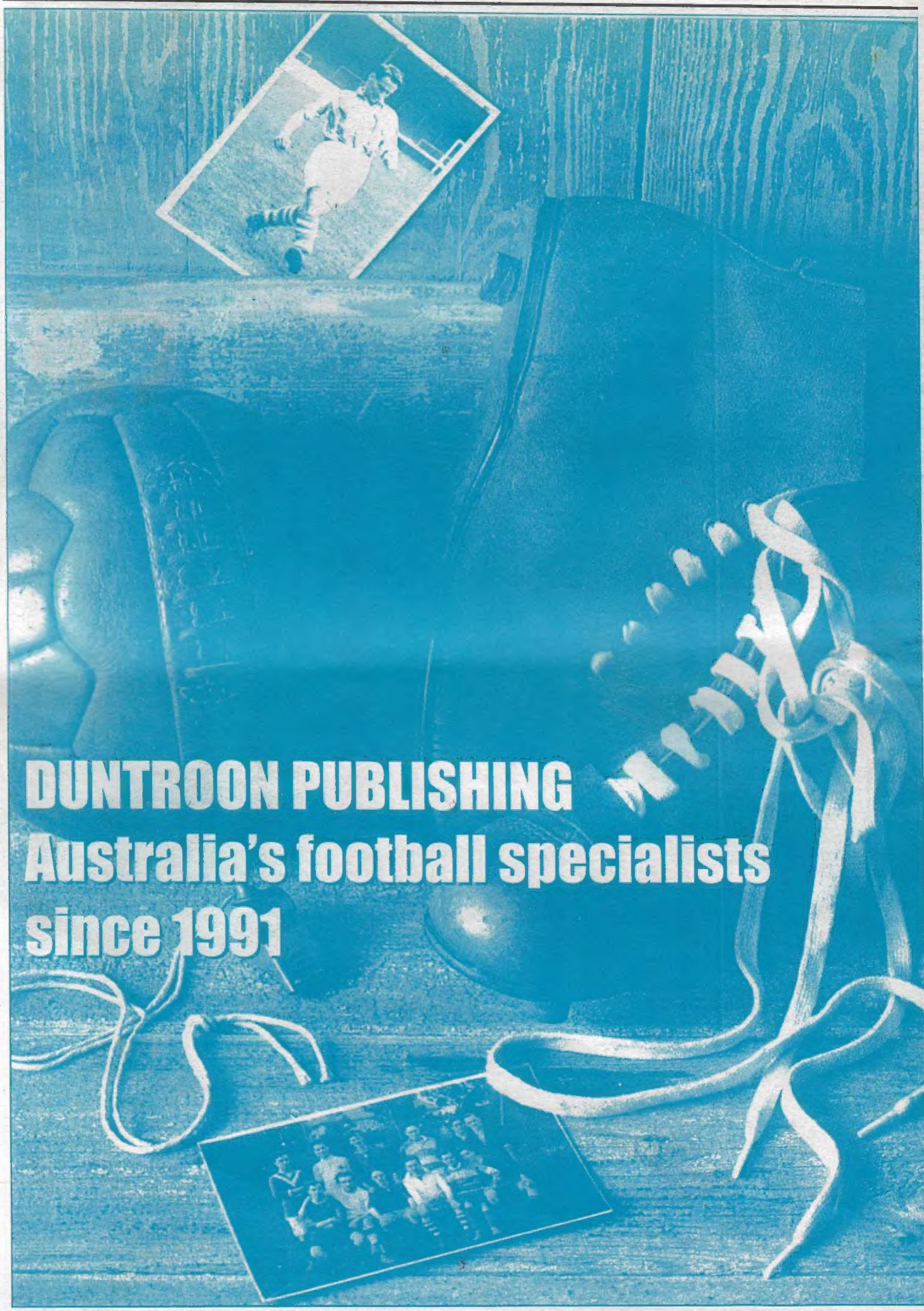
PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES
First Grade
1. Jason Holmes
2. Daniel Borg
3. Geoffrey Dwyer
4. Malcolm Meilak
5. Mark Reveley
6. Tom Bazdaric
7. Matthew O'Shea
8. Alex Trpkoski
9. Adam Anderson
10. Anthony Mittiga
11. Nikolce Joseski
12. George Wakim
13. Mauricio Islas
14. Stephen Chipps
15. Ben Delicata
16. Danial Cummins
17. Ballamodou Conde
18. Sung Jin Kim
19. Mark Beldham
22. Michael Xuereb
Coach: Tam Finlayson Asst Coach: John Calleja, Don Allan

Under-19 Ben Xerri Andrew Gaddes Nathan Spinks Robert Marangon Henry Schapers Simon Zahra Mark Lancaster Gregory Jackson Stephen Neligan Michael Sowato Michael Debono Alex Muscat Adam Mansueto Alioune Ndiaye Coach: Victor Ellul

PARRAMATTA EAGLES V CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE
Sunday 10 December
Melita Stadium
1st Grade Kick Off 6.30pm
Youth Grade Kick Off 4.30pm

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE
First-Grade:
41. Jose Bello Amigo
2. Michael Raeburn
3. Mark D'Alessandro
4. Greg Collins
5. Jose Mendes
6. Matthew Percy
7. Con Paradisis
8. Fernando Pelegrino
9. Steve Christoforidis
10. Jim Nikas
11. Angelo Markopoulos
12. Terry Sidiratos
13. Eric Mexis
14. Paul Gaffney
15. Adrian Molachino
16. Simon Fedele
17. Jim Corbo
18. John Kyriazopoulos
19. Scott Wells
1. Steve Angelov
Coach:

Under-19: 1. Phillip Zabaks 2. Menelaos Kallianis 3. Con Tsiounis 4. Christos Dimitriou 5. Antony Mersiades 6. Arthur Kavgas 7. Andrew Vrahas 8. Marcelo Guerrero 9. Mark Baric 10. Scott Holmes 11. Bruno Silva 12. David Cavaco 13. Evan Hatziantoniou 14. Matias Gulle 15. Themis Kalathas 16. Jonathan Vavasis 20. Tristan Tulloch Coach: George Mexis



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